

GEN

✓



GENEALOGY
974
EA76

JAN 6 1959

EARLY HISTORICAL EVENTS
IN THE DELAWARE VALLEY

film # 928,346 it 12

DATE MICROFILM
<i>76 March 15</i>
ITEM ON ROLL
<i>12</i>
CAMERA NO.
<i>SLC-12</i>
CATALOGUE NO.
<i>XLIB 7P102 #47</i>

Published by The Wayne County Citizen

1927

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

58304

Allen County Public Library
900 Webster Street
PO Box 2270
Fort Wayne IN 46801-2270

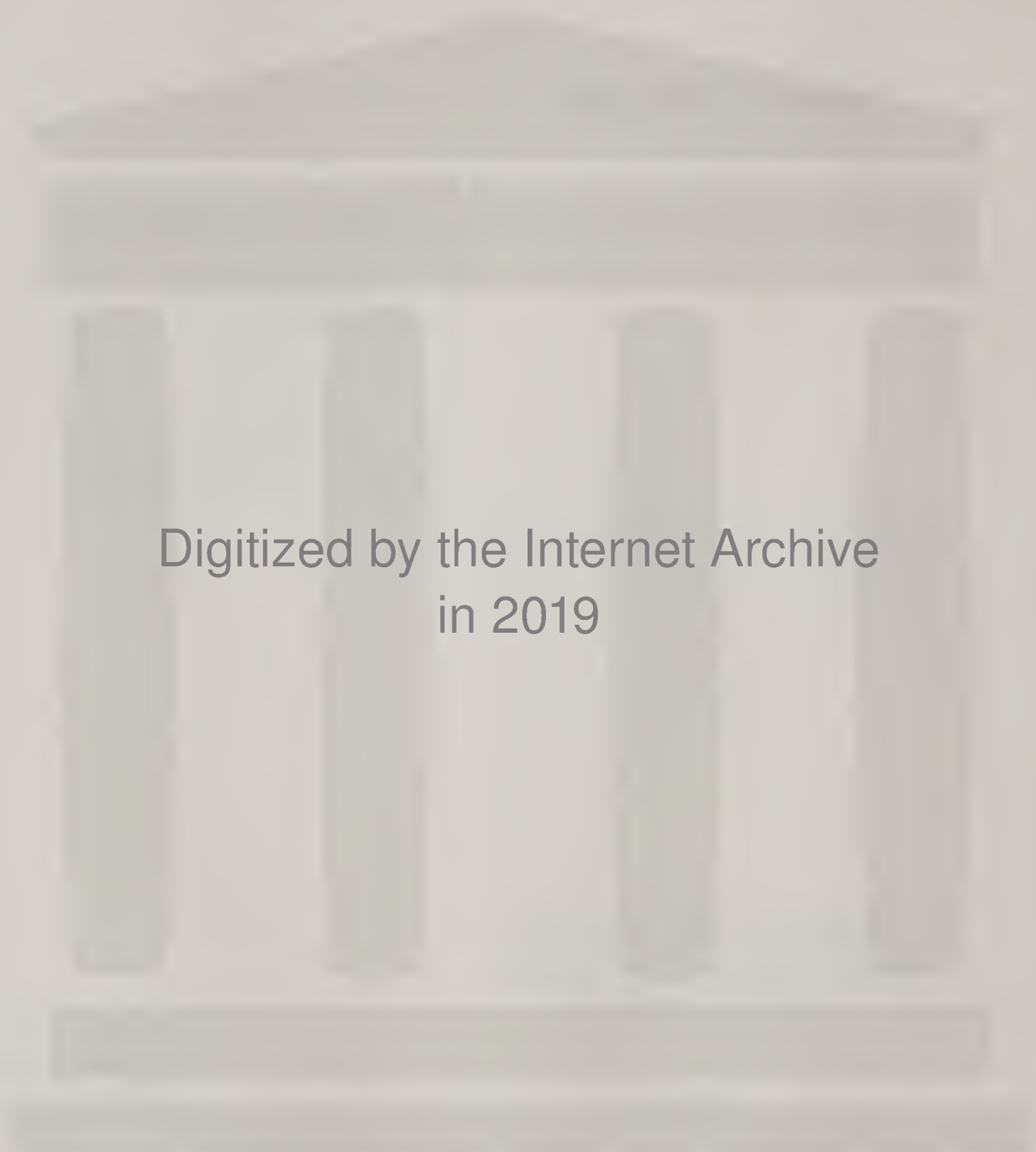
US/CAN
974.823
H2L

US/CAN
974.8
A/
#100

974.8
A
7

P.B.
974.8

for
W700



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2019

<https://archive.org/details/earlyhistoricale00unse>

Gift: Mrs. Verna Jacob
Aug. 1958

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT TO OUR READERS

April 22, 1927

Beginning next Tuesday THE WAYNE COUNTY CITIZEN will publish exclusively an historical series of articles dealing with the early history of the Delaware Valley. We have engaged a veteran newspaper man to write this series, JOHN T. BRADLEY, (photo inserted) a resident of Tyler Hill Damascus township, who is personally familiarly with much of the early history of the Delaware Valley and who will add to his personal knowledge by drawing on the knowledge of others and also data of previous historians. Mr. Bradley needs no introduction. He is without doubt the most capable news writer in Wayne County. He not only has something worth while to say about anything, but he always writes most interestingly. about these things.

Mr. Bradley has written many years for different Wayne and Sullivan Co. (N.Y.) papers under the names of R.E.A. and R.E. Porter, and under captions as Along the Delaware, Delaware Valley News, and Across the Delaware. This series will not only be very interesting but will also serve as a valuable contribution to the historical lore of Wayne County.

For the benefit of those who have not met Mr. Bradley personally, we are printing herewith a likeness of him, and now we wish to introduce you Mr. and Mrs. Reader meet your old friend, Mr. Bradley.

EARLY HISTORICAL EVENTS IN THE DELAWARE VALLEY

(By John T. Bradley)

April 29, 1927

(A series of historical articles of interest to everyone who resides in the Delaware section of the county.)

(The following article is an introduction to the series of historical sketches being written for the WAYNE COUNTY CITIZEN (Pennsylvania) by the veteran writer, Bradley. It should have appeared in the last issue with the first chapter.)

Even thrice told tales carry interest to someone. The bit of local history pertaining to the Damascus section of the Delaware Valley may be old and trite to some while to others it may be new and welcome information. In writing this brief sketch we are at a loss where to start and if we chance to start in the middle and work both ways the news to the present generation may be just as acceptable as long as it tells them something new. From the time the little pioneer bands of white people had to combat with the craftiness of their red skilled foe there has been many links in the local chain lost many accounts are only traditional and in such accounts it is easy to vary.

It is our intention to start about the beginning of the last completed century and to treat on civic and industrial welfare at the time when the Newburg to Cohecton turnpike, and later the Cohecton to Great Bend section of that wonderful undertaking to lay out and build a thoroughfare for traffic for a tallyho coach and four to speed over. This was the all absorbing theme of the day and continued to be until the iron horse of the Erie made its advent nearly four decades later. The section of the turnpike from the Hudson to the Delaware was finished in about 1810 and from here to the western terminal about two years later. If the reader has ever gone over the route especially westward from the Delaware he has found some great hills. It has been said that when the route was being surveyed those at this work were promised a drink of gin or their choice of distilled beverages at the top of every hill. Accordingly scouts were sent ahead at night to build bonfires

on the top of every ascent and the surveyors blazed a trail to this.

We have no record as to how the coaches got across the Delaware but suppose for a time the stream must have been forded near where the bridges spanned the river in later years and at the present day. As early as 1815 we have record of a man named Oliver H. CALKIN operating a ferry here and continued to do so until the first bridge was erected in 1821. Perhaps this man started the ferry following the western section of the turnpike in 1812. The opening of the turnpike gave the people here new impetus and new buildings spring up. The Calkin named, built a hotel at the terminal of the turnpike on the New York state side. Afterward BURTON ANGEL took it over and it was sold to Martin O'REILLY, the forebear of the Reillys of today. This was about the time of the advent of the Erie railroad in 1894 and Nathan Mitchell built a hotel where G.L. Eldred has a grocery.

THE LUKENS FAMILY

On top of the second hill from the Delaware river lived a Lukens family. Here the stage company had a relay station. A blacksmith shop was there, for shoeing the horses and doing repair work. Richard Lukens, a son of the proprietor, was the blacksmith. He was known as Big Dick. It is said that when he picked up a horse's foot to shoe it he held it with the grip of a vice. To give some idea of the giant he was we will say he wore a no XIV boot. We say the last over which his footwear was made. These lasts were turned to order, and even then a strip of sole leather was tacked to the side to make them wide enough. Some of the old buildings stand at this place yet, the one especially used for the horses. In the loft of this building, Lorenzo Dow, the famous divine, preached one Sunday, the people coming for miles, mostly on foot, to hear him. Alonzo D. RUTLEDGE of Galilee, then of tender age, is proud to tell that he was one of that congregation. Their service was in the spacious loft which had hastily been improvised with rude foras or benches and all had to climb a ladder on the outside of the building and crawl through an open window hole to get into this auditorium. In those days women wore crinoline or flaring hoop skirts. Reader, you and we were not there but what did they do with the men while the ladies were climbing the ladder? The relay station was later moved to Tyler Hill and was kept by Israel Tyler. These old buildings remained in use until razed by Thomas Griffith after he purchased the Tyler estate. Wayne County took over the turnpike and through the influence of representative men residing along it, has for five miles west from Delaware river been made a water bound stone road.

THE FIRST SCHOOL

The first school in this section of the Delaware Valley, of which we can find any record was started and taught by Charles Irvine some time between 1796 and 1800 and the first public school was erected on the hill about a mile west from the river. It was the little "Red Schoolhouse" on the hill and when it was discontinued for school purposes and the new schoolhouse built "in town" the old one was bought by Joseph Parsons and used as a workshop where he made coffins, as they were then called, as he was then undertaker. In 1849 a stock company erected and chartered the Damascus Union Academy at a cost of \$1050. Rev. Abijah M. CALKIN, a Baptist preacher, was the first principal. It was a wonderful school, even men of families attending it. The old school building was remodeled in 1880 and the stock company dissolved.

CHURCH BUILDING

At the date now mentioned two buildings for church purposes had been erected in what is now Damascus village. The first was erected by Thomas SHIELDS the-founder-of-Damascus and used by the Baptists until 1831 when a new edifice was erected by the members on the present site. Thomas Shields, the founder of Damascus, and probably the man who named it, in 1796 bought a large tract of land and gave it the name of Damascus Manor. The Methodist Episcopal circuit was established in 1831 but no church was built until 1857.

they having worship in a Union Church with the Presbyterians in Cochection. When they built on the present site their interest and good will was transferred to the Presbyterians who then became sole owners of the Cochection edifice.

(Another article under the same caption soon to follow.Ed.)

April 26, 1927

RAFTING

From the time Daniel SKINNER, in 1764 guided his float of pine trees, for they were nearly all full length trees intended for ship masts, down the torrentous Delaware to the time the largest raft that was taken down the same water highway almost a century and quarter later, great activities took form along the Delaware, not in this section alone, but wherever timber was in reach. Skinner with six trees lashed together as a raft, the smallest ever taken down the stream, had opened up a new industry and hundreds of timber owners rushed into the business. Many quit almost in beggary, few got rich at it. But think of the lumber sent down this river in that century and quarter when one raft sent down by George ABRAHAM in 1885 and steered by John B. Conklin, had dimensions of 215 feet in length and 85½ in width. Much of the lumber was run in log form, later in wharf timber; that is, with about one third hewn away leaving a flat face. As lumber grew scarcer fertile brains conceived the idea of ripping a log through the center thus making two sticks from one. But this did not meet with favor by contractors and companies who were having the dock or wharf constructed as often they were too thin to wear long. There was an old pit on the bank of the Delaware not far from the now State Bridge where a man and his wife ripped logs into wharf timber. The woman stood on the top and pulled the saw up, the man in the pit below pulled down. This one is the only instance to reach us traditionally. We never saw the one mentioned. To mention here all the crude methods used in those early days would consume too much time and waste too much clean white paper, yet they would no doubt interest the reader. But we will mention that for a long time lumber was hauled to the river by oxen. A long log would be loaded with one end upon a bob sled, the other end resting upon the ground and to this rear end another and shorter log would be fastened by a tug chain as a trailer. Often one man would manage two teams or yokes of oxen thus loaded.

CIVIC PROGRESS

Industrial progress was being advanced. Civic life was also taking form. At the completion of the turnpike from Newburg to Cochection in 1810 a post office was established in what later was called Old Cochection and Major Ebenezer TAYLOR appointed as postmaster. His commission was given by President James Madison, the fourth president. Major Taylor continued in office until his death in 1821 when he was succeeded by John T. AVERY who had come to Cochection from Chenango county and was at the time conducting a jewelry store. Avery continued in office for a few years and resigned. He soon moved into Pennsylvania locating nearing Barnes's Corners, now Schweighofer's Corners where he raised a family and attained an old age.

BRIDGE BUILDING

Traffic was at this time increasing so rapidly that scow accommodation for crossing the river was not popular, neither satisfactory and the matter of putting a bridge across the Delaware was agitated. Such matters even with necessity goading into action, moved slowly and it was not until 1817 that a charter to bridge the Delaware was granted. This charter was for sixty years but was renewed at its expiration in 1878. The work of constructing a wooden bridge was at once commenced by a man known as Major WHEAT. As the structure had but one center support, or pier, its own weight soon caused it to fall. Undaunted by their failure and to profit by it another bridge was commenced in 1820 by the same builder the charter members being the same, viz. WILLIAM TYLER, BENJAMIN CONKLIN, MOSES THOMAS, JOSEPH MITCHELL, WILLIAM BROWN. This company was made an incorporate company at the completion of the second

bridge, when a toll house and gate at the end of the bridge was also granted them. This second bridge was a two-pier structure and it was completed the following year, 1821. This one gave better service than the preceding one and stood the test until the spring of 1846. All the bridges thus far seemed in some way to be of faulty construction. The year following the collapse of the second Wheat bridge, 1847, a bridge known as the Benton bridge was constructed. In the spring of 1848 the New York state span went down connected with the falling of this span was a humorous incident that rightly belongs in here. An orange county drover with an unusually large drove of cows had just passed over the structure. The drover thought the tollkaker charged him an exorbitant sum to get the drove across and it put him in a very bad humor. Near the village he met a man who proved to be Ellery T Calkin and to him told his grievance. Why, said Mr. Calkin, they charge me as much. But said the drover they did not charge it for me, they made me pay cash down. And then and there he breathed a rather hot prayer for the Bridge Company and wished that the structure might fall before he got out of sight of it and this is the span that did fall before he and his drove had gotten to Roper's Hotel about three miles away.

Three years later the Pennsylvania span went down. This was in 1857. The fallen span on this side was also replaced and the bridge stood until carried away by the break-up February 8, 1857. This was the same spring that the memorable three foot snow fell April 20. Very singular and very fortunate that no one happened to be on any of the structures when they went down. While the bridges were down a scow was used and when a drove of cattle came along there was fun alive. On one of these occasions when Bateman Mitchell was in charge of the scow a refractory steer leaped the guard rail into the river and Bateman, then a young man, leaped after it landing as he intended upon the steer's back. The animal headed across the river and our hero guided it safely to the New York side. By that time his helper had a scow load across also. Sometimes there would be three or more scow loads in a drove.

CHAPTER III May 10, 1927

The coming of the Erie was the going of the Turnpike Company but in its life of four decades the latter had caused the location of many hamlets which sprang up along its route. Taverns, as they were then called, seemed to take the lead among buildings. The one at Rileyville was built by FRANK BLAIR, an uncle of James Blair, who in his 85th year now resides on the top of Four Story Hill. This hostelry changed landlords often and kept in service until the Volstead act forced it to the wall. It seems strange that fewer taverns were built upon the Damascus side of the Delaware than on the Cohecton. A tavern was built in 1794 by Reuben Skinner, oldest son of "Admiral" Daniel Skinner, at Bush's Eddy at the head of St. Tammany Flats. In the same year Ebenezer Taylor built one on the bank of the Delaware, near the eddy named in his honor. This is said to be the first tavern built in western Sullivan Co. Reuben Skinner and wife both died in 1812 and were buried in the Baptist cemetery connected with the Shield church, the house now owned by Watson L. Tyler. When the Baptists erected a new edifice on the present location in 1831 and opened a new cemetery on the knoll between the church and the Delaware river, the bodies of Skinner and his wife were exhumed and re-interred in the new cemetery. Nearly, if not all of the other bodies were also removed. The old church and lot were bought in 1848 by John Bradley and a few years later sold to his brother, Robert, who in 1872 had the building lowered to a story and a half and modeled into a dwelling house. Since then it has changed owners four times.

The turnpike company maintained toll houses and a gate at certain distances along their right of way. One of these gates was on the slope east of Tyler Hill village between the residence of H.C. Jackson and James Smith and the spot where the house stood is yet marked by a clump of June rose bushes. When the old route was finally abandoned the road was given over to the townships thru which it passed. Later the Commissioners of Wayne took over the section under their jurisdiction. Thus what was once a giant enterprise eventually went to naught by something more powerful running it to the wall by better service, better dispatch.

THE COMING OF THE RAIL

On a quiet frosty day in December in 1848 the Erie Company sent an engine and tender to make a test trip to a point west of Callicoon, or as far as the track was finished. We imagine this locomotive was some crude affair compared with a twentieth century locomotive.

THE ERIE OR THE DEVIL

ABRAHAM CANFIELD, forbear of the present Canfield families in this locality, owned a large timber tract on the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware opposite Rock Run, extending from the river well back upon the hill above. On this memorable day Abraham's son and a hired man named Alexander McIntyre were on this slope starting logs with a yoke of oxen. The trees were so dense that one could not see in any direction except upward. These men were both entering the years of manhood. In the afternoon a peculiar noise attracted their attention. They knew it was not the distant screech of an eagle, the continuous yelp of a wolf, nor the blood-curdling yell of a panther for to them these sounds were all too familiar. They continued at work. Suddenly this noise came closer and was of a weird nature and as the slope caught up the sound and sent it reverberating to the other hillside in echo it became to the men demonic. They stood still. John S. Canfield, familiarly called Jack, said to Alex, it must be the devil and he started home through a short cut calling for Alex to bring the oxen. The supernatural noise was the whistle of the approaching Erie locomotive opened to capacity and the clanking of irons to irons made the two men think the devil had broken his chains and was on the rampage. It was several days before the matter was made clear to them and the others of the household. They had heard that a locomotive was soon to be sent over the new track but had not the remotest idea what it was like or the noise that would emanate from it. In later years it amused them to recall and recount this story. The following year, 1849, the road was opened to freight and passenger traffic.

OTHER ENTERPRISES

The advent of the railroad opened up another new enterprise, that of cutting and delivering cord wood to the stations to be used as fuel in the locomotives as they were all equipped with wood-burning furnaces. There was no such thing as buzzing wood then, a buck-saw and a good pair of elbows doing the stunt. A building boom for those days set in. Taverns, or hotels, came to the front. The Cochection house was built in 1849. Ellery T. Calkin built his temperance hotel the same year and in 1850 he was appointed postmaster under the administration of Zachary Taylor and he moved the office from up town to the depot. John VanBuren, son of President Martin VanBuren, in the campaign of 1852, made this temperance house his headquarters when touring Sullivan county in the interest of the Democrat party.

By going back prior to 1849 we find that George BUAN conducted a temperance hotel on the lower end of St. Tammany Flats on the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware. The lack of aversion to spiritous liquors in those early days creates a wonder that such houses were maintained. It is said that the oldest tavern in existence still is one at Dingman's Ferry. For a long time after its business career was over it was used as a shelter for the Quick family, of whom Tom Quick, the famous Indian slayer, was one. The iron material including locks and hinges bore evidence of being hand forged. Volney Skinner conducted a hotel in Milanville in the 60's and accommodated raftsmen. The building stands yet and is occupied by his two daughters, the Misses Florence and Elizabeth. Lodging houses or taverns were a necessity along the river in rafting days for it is said that two or three hundred men at once would seek lodging in small villages. Even farmhouses gave lodging to raftsmen although the location of the homes were remote from the river. A landing was often forced between the eddies where regular stopping places were. This would be the case when an eddy was full or when the man on shore failed to snub. Nit coming on the raft would be pulled ashore at some other spot.

The last man to take toll for the Cochection Bridge Company was William McIntyre, and the last man to take toll for the Turnpike Company in the toll house east of Tyler Hill was Benjamin Conklin. He married a daughter of James Monington.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION WANTED

Note - Anyone in the Delaware Valley having historical data, either on record or traditional such as we need for our articles in the Citizen and will be so kind as to send them to me I will feel very much indebted to them. Without such assistance it will be impossible for us to make these sketches as concise and yet as complete as they should be. If you have only a little information that touches on the points send it and we will weave it in where it belongs. These sketches are intended for future reference as much as for the-present entertaining reading at the present. Address the writer at Damascus. Thank you.

A CORRECTION

There are one or two errors in two dates in the previous sketches. In speaking of the Benton Bridges spans falling it says the Pennsylvania span fell three years later. This was in 1851. the type has it 1857. A line or two below the "Benton Bridge" a new sentence is starting with a small C and no preceding. In the introductory it should read red skinned foe; not "red skilled foe". In the introductory above the Lukens family 1884 should be 1849.

CHAPTER IV. EARLY HISTORICAL EVENTS IN THE DELAWARE VALLEY

May 20, 1927

The early Europeans called the natives they found in America Indians. Those we wish to name here were the Algonquins, or Leni Lenape later designated as Delawares as they were located along the Delaware river, a stream named in honor of a European nobleman. The Delaware valley became the seat of their government, called the Indian Confederacy. As this confederacy increased in numbers they divided into tribes which left the parent stock. But they still looked up to the Delawares and gave them long after the reverential title of "grandfather".

EARLY SETTLERS

From the time of 1638, that along the lower waters of this river was peopled by the Swedes and Fins the Delaware was an open highway or gateway for the whites to reach the lands bordering upon it to its sources but Lord de La Ware did not live long to enjoy life in the new found world along the river named in his honor. Knowing what was likely to be met made civilization slow in pushing their way into the unknown. However, tradition says that in 1750 Moses Thomas, an Englishman from some of the English settlements along the Atlantic coast came up the Delaware and established a trading post with the Indians, locating about midway between what is now the village of Damascus and Milanville. He is said to have been the first white man to locate in what is now Damascus township. This statement has been contradicted, and to get the real truth one must dig into the graves of antiquity and perhaps then fail. The farm where this man located is today known as the Thomas farm and is now owned by the heirs of James E. Orr. We find that in 1754 Dr/John Calkin, Joseph Skinner, and Bazalottl came from Connecticut across the Hudson at what is now Kingston and settled on the west side of the Delaware. Dr. Calkin settled near the Cochection Falls, Tyler settled at what is now Damascus, and Skinner settled on Tammany Flats. Dr. Calkin was the first man to practice medicine in this section of the Delaware. Other pioneers who located at Milanville (Cushetunk then) were Simon Calkin, John Ross, Jesse Drake, Nicholas Conklin, Nathan Mitchell, Robert Land. Some years later or about 1760 David Young, a Scotchman settled at Big Island and still later came William Conklin, the forebear of all the Conklin families in this valley.

Joseph Skinner, father of "Admiral" Daniel Skinner sold to the latter the St. Tammany Flats. Soon after this transaction Joseph was shot and killed at Taylor's Eddy about a mile above Cochection Bridge (now State Bridge) by some lurking foe in ambush as he was returning from attending a treaty with the Indians. Other men came with the contingent of path blazers but time and space forbids us going too much into detail.

FORT ON RIVER

This handful of pioneers at once started a village and planted crops. A fort, or blockhouse was built on the river bank as a protection against marauding Indians. They were in the territory of the Cushetunk tribe but they were friendly to the whites, but other tribes who looked upon the encroachments of

the whites with jealousy and blood in their eye planned a raid upon this settlement and carried it into execution. Moses Thomas and a man named Willis were out on a scouting trip when they saw several Indians in a field not far away pulling up and eating turnips. The two men turned back to go to the Fort but their retreat was cut off by more Indians in ambush who fired upon them killing both. The Indians then attacked the Fort but were defeated in the attempt. The brave band of pioneers sadly lamented the death of their two comrades. The Cushetunks were greatly displeased with this attack by their red brothers and promised assistance to the whites should another attack occur. The people altho repulsed in their prosperity and obliged to live in fear, with their lives hanging in the balance continued to prosper as further accounts will show. They were hardy and industrious, they tilled the soil and raised crops; they had an abundance of fish and game for their subsistence but such food soon became almost nauseating and they derived means to vary the menu. This will be told in another chapter.

History and tradition frequently conflict, one differing from the other, but what is history rather than tradition placed upon record, it is not apt to have something added or detracted from by repetition

NAMING TWIN VILLAGES

At this point in our story we deem it a proper place to speak of how the twin sister villages of this section of the Delaware, Damascus and Cochection came to receive their names. It seems to be a conceded fact that Damascus is a namesake of the Damascus in the far east, in that country where man had his genesis. About Cochection there seems to be a difference of opinion. It may have been derived from the word "Cochecco" an Indian name meaning swift running water, and being near the falls some of the very early white men may have added the suffix "ton" completing the word Cochection. Then again the section below was known as Cushetunk and it is feasible that the word may have been corrupted by the careless peaking pioneers so that it sounded as it now does- Cochection. The naming of Callicoon seems to be more authentic, in the early days of that section Holland Dutch were numerous there as settlers. Turkeys were also plentiful as game the ridges of beechwoods north and east with an abundance of mast in the fall afforded an excellent feeding ground for these birds. Callicoon was the Dutch word for turkey, hence the name.

TOLD OVER THE HILLS

Before the turnpike had been surveyed and opened from Newburg to Cochection a road had been opened from the Hudson to the Delaware. Subsequently Daniel Skinner and his neighbors opened a road from the Big Island to connect with this road some three or four miles east of Cochection. This was known as the "Wild Turnpike" At the time of the survey for the turnpike was made Daniel used his utmost endeavor to have the company follow his road and cross the Delaware at the head of St. Tammany Flats. But the people of Cochection seemed to have the stronger pull and the road was made up and down the long hills of Rileyville. Had they listened to Skinner's pleading the road could have been made up Hollister Creek via Duck Harbor to Rileyville. But the surveyors no doubt had the thought of that drink of ginon top of every hill. Had the turnpike not gone where it now is the general topography of the country. (Error?) When speaking of the Cochection bridges we neglected to state that the heavy frame timber of the first one, perhaps the first two was sawed at the old sawpit previously mentioned. Two men did the sawing, one above, one below the log.

CHAPTER V.

When we consented to write this series the subject looked inviting and with our cacoes scribendi it carried withit a fascination irresistible. But we find it now a matter that calls for a great deal of research. Much of the data in the form of record and tradition is incomplete and the one conflicts with the other making it difficult to present this as we would wish to do, therefore we would ask our critics to deal mildly.

According to data at hand, long before the founding of the village of Damascus came John CARTER and wife to make a home in the wilderness. They built a cabin near the present site of the Damascus Post Office building. As the song would run: They had a little cabin/A shappekin for the window/

With the ground for the floor And a plank for the door.

Here they dwelt in peace as they thought, with the Indians. Their needs may have been many but their wants few, for did they not build their mansion with an axe and an auger? They tilled the rich alluvial soil, and prospered, dwelt with them. After an unusually plentiful season of crops, it was decided that the husband go to settlements down the river and get cattle to eat of their abundance. After his departure the wife went into the garden or field to harvest some corn and beans and as she stopped in her work and looked up an Indian daubed with war paint stood uncomfortably near. She addressed him in a friendly way but saw hostility at once. With a deft twirl of his tomahawk he sent it to her brain. He removed the scalp and left the body prostrate. He returned to the cabin where others of his race were looting what they wished for, took the three children from their bed, fired the cabin and took to cover. No human being can imagine the feeling of that husband and father when he returned and found his home in ruins and the lifeless body of his wife, lying where she fell. He at once surmised the children had been carried off captives. Hastily summoning as many men as were available for the occasion they took the trail of the Red Skins. They overtook them, but where, our record fails to state. The resolute pioneers found an irresistible force but launched an attack. It was every man for himself. The white soon saw it was useless to wage so unequal a battle and fled back as they could and gave up the fight. The last seen of that father he stood with his back to a tree fighting for his dear life and the life of his children. It is said that later the three children were captured and sent back to the settlement in Connecticut whence the parents came.

A story related to us by Rev. Orson Gelatt Russell, a former pastor on the Damascus M.E. charge was that in the victims in the Wyoming massacre was one John Williams. His name is to be found on the monument erected as a memorial to those heroes. After matters had quieted down, Mrs. Williams and three children were placed upon horseback and started back to Connecticut whence she came. That man, John Williams, was great, great grandfather of the man who told us the story. This memorial may be found not far from Forty-Fort.

Do you, when you are gliding swiftly over the roads in your car, maybe a limousine, ever think how much we owe to the path-blazers who made it possible for us to ride thus?

THE DAMASCUS MANOR

After holding the Damascus Manor some 18 years or in 1814, Thomas Shields decided to sell his possession. A company of men composed of Tylers, Drakes, Bushes and perhaps others bought it and the company was known as the Damascus Manor company.

Moses TYLER bought the upper end of St. Tammany Flats in 1818 and built a house on an eminence overlooking the Delaware but some distance from it. At last accounts the house was still standing but was unused. A grandson, Otto Epiphalet, very recently built a home near the old relic using some of the timbers from the home of his uncle James, which was razed for that purpose. The last named is the only Tyler now living on St. Tammany Flats. Charles DRAKE, another of the Manor company lived where W. B. Tyler had the post office and which was burned when in the ownership of Louis Marold. "Uncle Charlie" as he was familiarly called, was both lumberman and farmer. The west line of the Damascus Manor tract was the east line of the farm now owned by the writer. The tract was long since sold off into individual farms. Judge Moses Tyler was born in Damascus in 1788 and died in 1874 at the age of 86. George Bush and Moses Thomas also belong to the Damascus Manor Company. John C. Drake, oldest son of Charles Drake, mentioned above, steered to a Philadelphia market the first raft cut off of the tract by this company. A son of John C. Drake, Frederick A. Drake, is an attorney and counsellor at law at 19-25 West 44th Street, Manhattan Borough, New York City. Judge Moses Tyler received his prefix by being associate judge of Wayne county courts. He married Sally Ross, a granddaughter of Joseph Ross, the first settler at Callicoon. At the age of 28, Drake married Caroline Curtis, oldest daughter of James C. Curtis, of Cocheton.

An order of Free Masonry was organized in 1800 known as St. Tammany No. 83, and was soon in a flourishing condition, with a jurisdiction extending from Hancock to Minisink. The nearest lodges were those of St. Andrews at Hobart, Delaware Co., N.Y. chartered in 1797, and one at Milford only a few days older than

St. Tammany which was named in honor of the noted chief of the Delaware Indians whose home was on the Flats that now bear his name. Tradition places that time at about 1700.

ST TAMMANY LODGE

When the Newburg and Cochection Company spent their pike thru Cochection instead of Tammany Flats as Daniel Skinner wished, it gave to the latter place a solar plexis blow from which it never recovered but began to dwindle and the death of the Admiral and his son Reuben in 1813 and 1815 finished the blow. The Lodge was then removed to Damascus because the old tavern in which it was held in an upper story burned. In Damascus the meetings of the lodge were held in the upper story of a store. It was later removed to Milanville where it was held in the upper story of a house perhaps the old "Red House" built by John Land in 1786. The Lodge subsequently annulled. When later Delaware Lodge F. and A.M. No. 561 was organized at Cochection in 1864, M.F. VanKirk then a prominent manufacturer residing in Tyler Hill was made its first master. The first master of St. Tammany Lodge No. 83, was Reuben Skinner and the last master was his nephew, Colonel Calvin Skinner, elected in 1822. There were two Tylers in St. Tammany Lodge by the name of William, one being William of Tyler Hill, father of Israel Tyler. He was made warden in 1810. He married Mary Monington; he died in 1820. It is said that the Masonic apron worn by the Tyler Hill warden is still in the possession of one of the Tyler Hill descendants but we fail to discover it. Calvin Skinner was the last member of the St. Tammany Lodge to be called hence.

There was no rival lodge of Masonry until 1842 when a Lodge was instituted in Honesdale. An antimason crusade began to spread over the country between 1828 and 1835 and at the last date the Grand Lodge recalled the St. Tammany charter. as it was thought that no attempt would ever be made to reorganize it. The Delaware Lodge F. and A.M. No. 561. was moved from Cochection to Callicoon. John C. Drake mentioned above, was the first member elected in Delaware lodge in 1864, he being the first candidate balloted for. The Lodge is now in a flourishing condition and has members scattered all thru this section. In 1825 a man by the name of William Morgan, who was preparing to publish a book purporting to disclose the secrets of Free-masonry, was taken on the 11th of September of that year, under cover of a criminal process, from Batavia Genesee Co., N.Y. to Canandaigua, examined and discharged but on his leaving the prison in the evening, he was seized by persons unknown, forced into a carriage, rapidly driven out of the village, and was never seen by his friends again. The legislature of New York appointed a committee to investigate who reported that William Morgan had been put to death. To punish his supposed attempt to reveal the secrets of Free-masonry he was drowned. Morgan's abduction excited a strong prejudice against Free-masonry and a political party was formed called the Anti-Masonic, but the feeling gradually wore out.

CHAPTER VI

May 27, 1927

SOME DAMASCUS FIRSTS

To Milanville must be given the precedence in many respects. It was there that the first white settlement was formed. It was there that the first two story frame house in Wayne County was built. The same house stands today but was cut down to a story and a half by Nathan Skinner who bought it from John Land the man who built it. It was at Milanville that the first grinding mills were built. The first of these crude grinding mills was built by Timothy Skinner and Simon Calkin somewhere about the year 1760, or perhaps earlier, for in 1763 the Indians coming down from the north wiped out the entire settlement. At that time the village is said to contain thirty log houses as dwelling houses, three other large houses, a grist mill, saw mill, and a block house or fort. It is not known how closely these buildings were assembled. It is very probable that the village was straggling.

THE STURDY PIONEERS

The sturdy pioneers, while meeting with great loss were not disheartened and began again with renewed energy for it seemed to them that the Delaware Valley and surrounding hills was a good place to live. Ten years succeeding the destruction of the first grist mill Nicholas Concklin built another. These mills reduced the grain so they had bread and corn foods supplementary to the potatoes, turnips, flesh of game and fish. The Indians...

and everything moved along pleasantly until the Minisink Massacre. Only a few incidents have been mentioned to show what the path-blazers suffered in order that successors might enjoy life in Neautiful Wayne County.

TWO GRIST MILLS

In about 1850, William Bonesteel a grist mill at Milanville, above the confluence of the North Branch Calkin creek and the South Branch of the same creek. Later he sold the mill and property connected with it to David Young. The latter was subsequently killed by being caught by a landslide while he was working around the dam. This mill is in active service yet and is owned by H.M. Page and O.H. Days, although there were several intervening owners.

In about 1850 William Bonesteel started to build a gristmill at Damascus. The mill was nearly completed when it caught fire and was nearly completely burned except the large overshot water wheel which was saved by John (Jack) Lowry. For this act Mr. Bonesteel gave him \$100. The debris was cleared away and another mill was built. The building yet stands but has been abandoned as a grist mill having passed down through the time of his son Leroy and the latter's son William who turned it into a woodworking factory and later sold it to Ebenezer Robertson of Brooklyn, N.Y., the present owner. People of those days "backed" many a bag of grain to these early mills and were chased by snarling wolves snapping not far from their heels when they were late in returning home.

HOW MILANVILLE WAS NAMED

Before leaving Milanville we must tell how it received its name. Chauncey Thomas conducted a store at Deposit and in 1835 (35) when work was temporarily stopped on the Erie at that place and he had no customers he loaded his stock of goods on a raft and moved to Milanville (then nameless). Those were the times of everyday shipplasters. One day when Col. Calvin Skinner was in the store and Mr. Thomas was signing them he remarked to Mr. Skinner that to write the name of Damascus upon them seemed remote. Col. Skinner suggested that he write Milanville. This was done and the name yet sticks. The suggestion was made because the Colonel was a great reader and admired Napoleon's Decree issued at Milan, so he added the suffix "ville".

THE NAMING OF GALILEE

The village of Galilee, about five miles west from the Delaware, received its name by similar circumstances. A vagabond sort of fellow an itinerant and a transient wherever he stopped, worked for Uncle Charlie Drake of Damascus, a lumberman. The wag made trips away every Sunday and it was suggested he must have located a sweetheart somewhere. Following one of his trips he was asked where he went to the preceding day. He replied to Galilee, a Sabbath Day's journey from Damascus. When the post office was established in the place in 1843 with Philip Brigham as postmaster, the name of Galilee was used and the post office is yet Galilee.

COMING OF THE NOBLES

In the early days of Damascus village, came Alvah Noble from a settlement in Connecticut. He pitched his tent along the pike on the flat near where the Eden bungalow is and started an upper leather tannery. In those years it took a good seven years to tan a calf or deacon skin from which to make a pair of Sunday boots. Shoes were then the unknown quantity. How long Mr. Noble remained there we do not know but he migrated to the section now known as Calkin and pitched his tent in the wilderness. He was the forbear of all the Nobles in that section. When in need of certain groceries he had to hike through the forest from his home to the pike crossing a fallen tree over the creek near the falls whence Fallsdale received its name and hitting the pike at the home of Wheeler Mitchell, now the home of A.D. Bushnell. Then he had a fairly good hike to the stores in Damascus village. What he bought was toted home in a sack hung over his shoulder. Residing then where James Smith now resides - James Monington and there our traveler always stopped for refreshments. A favorite dish in those days was mush and milk but Mr. Noble gave it the euphonious name of "pudding", and the hill soon took on the name of Puddin' Hill which stuck to it even after a post office was established in 1878 with David Fortman its postmaster. Just before the establishing of the postoffice and giving it the name of Tyler Hill it had been called Tylerville by some. The name Tyler Hill was in honor of Israel Tyler who was the nucleus of all business enterprises in the late years preceding its naming.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

New industries followed the advent of the Erie railroad, among them being a sole leather tannery to Milanville the same year the Erie opened for traffic 1849. In that year, Clemens, Horton and Robertson built a tannery. The trade mark stamped into the finished sides was "Rock Glen" and any side thus stamped could be relied upon as perfect leather. The partnership did not long continue, Horton and Robertson withdrawing, leaving Clemens the sole proprietor. In 1854 Mr. Clemens sold the tannery to Eli Beach of Greene County, New York. Soon after the purchase Mr Beach associated with his oldest son John Howard Beach, making a firm name of E. Beach & Son. Prior to this time there was a road from Damascus to Honesdale via Milanville over what is now called Reins Hill, past Stanton Corners to Beach Lake, but at that time was simply Beach Pond. Until 1860 mail for Milanville was carried by obliging neighbors or by Beach & Son's teams when making their trips to and from Cochection for hides and with leather for shipment. Mail matter became more plentiful as time wore on but good things come slow. Finally in 1860 Captain Beach went to Washington and with the aid of our Congressman, William H. Binnick, the Federal government granted him a post office but would give but three days service a week. The office was located in the Beach store and the son J. Howard was postmaster. The amusing incident in the affair was that the son Howard was a Democrat and the son Charles was a Republican and no matter which way the administration went the postoffice was kept in the family. The first mail carrier to take the mail from Damascus to Milanville was David Tyler, who by the way, was a member of St. Tammany Lodge No. 33, and of the Delaware Lodge No. 561, instituted in 1864. The post office at Milanville was held by the Beaches until 1897, when the property passed into the hands of W. S. Brandt and his brother-in-law T. J. Fromer. A chemical factory was started at that time. Eli Beach died in 1877. The tannery was first run by water but later Knapp & Charlesworth of Honesdale installed a large steam power engine. The old tannery had been dismantled and razed prior to the sale to the Milanville Chemical Company. When Hon. W. B. Guinnip was a member of the Assembly in 1884-5 he secured the establishment of a postoffice for his locality. The place had long been known as Branningville. Federal officials objected to so long a name. At that time O. R. Packard had just bought the J. D. Brannings estate there and as he came from Atco, New Jersey, he suggested that the new office be called Atco. The name was accepted and Mr. Packard was made postmaster.

CHAPTER VII

June 3, 1927

THE POSTOFFICE

In 1824 under the administration of James Monroe, a postoffice was established in the village of Damascus and William H. Clark was appointed postmaster. The succession of postmasters to date follows: Dudley CLARK, Walter S. VAIL, Nathaniel W. VAIL, Charles IRVINE, James S. VAIL, William W. TYLER, Mark APPELY, W. W. TYLER, Edson D. KNAPP, Andrew G. GREGG and Martin J. DERMODY, the present incumbent. In 1803 this section's mail was left at Milford to be called for. Prior to that the mail was left at Easton and returning raftsmen would report if any was there and it was then brought up to the Inn of Reuben Skinner. Later it was brought from Newburg by the Tallyho coach over the Newburg and Great Bend turnpike.

COCHECTION FLATS

From the early settling of the country lying along the Delaware from Cochection Falls to the mouth of the Callicoon Creek it was called Cochection Flats but we have never seen any reason given why. In 1750 Joseph Grisvold secured about a million acres from Queen Anne patent granted in 1704. This land all lay east of the Delaware and extended from that stream almost to the Hudson. He came back here but had difficulty in getting people to settle on his tract. He did, in 1754 get a few men and their families to settle here. In a previous article we mentioned that Dr. John Calkin located near the Falls. Now it is possible that the location was on the east side of the Delaware. Bazaleel Tyler located at Damascus, but not named Damascus until Thos. Shields bought his large tract from the Penn Bros., Philadelphia, and named it Damascus Manor, and four years later 1800, started and named the village Damascus.

Joseph Skinner came from Litchfield, Conn. at the same time and located on the Flats just across from Big Island and later named St. Tammany. The only one whom we can find who located on the Griswold tract was Joseph Ross who located on the east side of the Delaware at the mouth of the Callicoon Creek, the first white man to settle in Callicoon. From this man descended all the Rosses who have populated this section. The chronological tree of this family is so wide spreading that we find it irksome to trace but may be able to refer to this deserving family later on.

THE TYLER TREE

The Tyler family has another wide tree of descendants and the forbears had much to do in making the history of this section and is closely allied to the Ross family by marital ties. Bazaleel Tyler, who came to the Cochection valley by the earnest solicitation of Joseph Griswold, was born in Litchfield, Conn., Nov. 6, 1716, married Sarah Calkin and moved to Cochection Valley in 1754. The children of this family were Hannah, Bazaleel, Sarah, Silas, Paul, Abigail, Timothy, Nathaniel, William, Charles, Mary, Rebecca, Sophia, Amos. Several of these sons were soldiers in the Revolution, and Bazaleel 2nd, a Captain, was killed in the Minisink Massacre. Paul Tyler, born June 16, 1751, married Hester Brink. Their children were William, Timothy, Amos, Abigail, George Sarah, Ebenezer, Catharine, Sophia. Paul's oldest son William married Mary, daughter of James Monington. The children of this couple (William Tyler and Mary Monington) were Israel, Sarah, Raymond, Alfred, Eliza, Emline. Israel Tyler married Lavina Tyler, dau of Judge Moses and Maru Ross-Tyler, and their sons were Moses, Lorenzo Dow, William. Charles Tyler was born in Cochection March 5, 1762 and was the tenth child in the family of fourteen children born to Bazaleel and Sarah Calkin Tyler. He married Isabel, daughter of David Young, who was a Scotchman and located at Big Island soon after 1760. Charles enlisted in the American army at the age of 18 (1778) and continued in service until the surrender at Yorktown. He died Feb. 20, 1820. Many now living can remember John Young Tyler, son of Charles. The home he for years occupied in Tyler Hill stands today but has been remodeled. John Y. as he was familiarly called was born in Cochection April 7, 1811, and died June 23, 1891 aged 80.

Israel Tyler was born in Damascus township. Feb. 26, 1836. Upon reaching manhood he gave his attention to lumbering. At one time there were great activities at the foot of the slope upon which Tyler Hill is built.

INDUSTRIES

Located along a small stream there were seven mills and factories, and all within a mile space. The Tylers had saw mills, a grist mill, and a saddletree and a bannister mill. A steam power stick factory was operated by Many F. VanKirk. When the work was abandoned and the mill dismantled, the big twin steam engines were taken to do duty hauling cars on the plane on the D. & H. Gravity coal road from Honesdale to Carbondale. An oar factory was operated by a man named Page (or Paige). The factory stood against the bank on the north side of what was then the Cochection and Grand Bend pike between the homes now of M. D. Mitchell and Mrs. Rose Monington. When the business was abandoned here it was carried to Ohio where the work is still in progress. John Wilsey assisted Mr. Page in the work here, or maybe was associated with him, and went west with the business. In 1854, Israel Tyler built a four-story grist mill, with basement, on a 40x60 base. The construction work was under the supervision of Tobias Van Gelder John and Richard Oliver, young mechanics, who came over from Cherry Ridge, worked on the building and made Tyler Hill their residence. from that time. It is said that when the frame work of the mill was up ready for the rafters Evan a young son of John Y. Tyler walked one of the plates. For many years this mill did a big business. Wheat and corn was brought in from the west besides custom work. The first miller was Adney C. Clark. The mill has been dismantled and razed. The three sets of stones lie in the old basement corroding. Dow, one of the sons took an interest in milling learned the trade and managed the mill while his brother Moses managed the store which was on the pinnacle of the hill. Later the brothers built a modern store, that stands today as the general store of C. M. Pethick. The post office is in this store. Israel Tyler died in 1874. Moses died in 1892 and Lorenzo Dow in 1903.

THE FORTNAM FAMILY

Thomas Fortnam and son David located in Tyler Hill in 1847. Mr. Fortnam opened a small store in 1848. Two years later he sold the store to William Warren Tyler and John Mills. He then started another store farther up the hill. Both of these concerns consequently were purchased by Israel Tyler. David Fortnam married Emeline Tyler-Smith, daughter of William Tyler and sister to Israel, and to them were born one son (Thomas L.) and three daughters, one of whom Lavina, became the wife of C.M. Pethick, but is deceased. Soon after the Fortnams came from the Susquehanna Valley to Tyler Hill, Thomas Sr. decided to go back to England on a visit. He engaged John Bradley, father of the writer and a tailor by trade, to make him a suit of clothes. The suit consisted of a coat and trousers of the finest broadcloth and a vest of white satin. The "stove pipe" hat was the regulation beaver of those times. Prior to the time of establishing a postoffice at Tyler Hill in 1878 with David Fortnam as postmaster, Mr. Fortnam and his stepson, William A. Smith had started a store and did a large business. The postoffice was located in this store. The store building was moved bodily down the hill and converted into a dwelling house by Thomas Griffith and is now the home of his son Dwight. The other step-son, Tobias A. Smith, was a miller by trade and also conducted a hotel at Harrowsburg, N.Y. He is now residing in Middletown, New York, in his 83rd year. Thomas L. Fortnam married Helen Maud Bushnell of Bethany and one son Clarence David Fortnam survives. He succeeded to the Fortnam estate and is now associated with Guy F. Reilly in the Cochection Mills.

HAD LIKINGS FOR "WILLIAM"

The Tyler families in the Delaware Valley all seem to have a liking for the name William and we think a majority of the family named a son William. This may have been caused by the love they may have borne for their king, William of England as the forerunners were of English descent. In one instance one William was called Rock Run Bill. His father was Nathaniel Tyler, a drummer in the Revolution and his mother was a daughter of Joseph Ross, the first white settler in what is now Callicoon. Rock Run Bill was born Sept. 8, 1788, and died Nov. 27, 1876. On his marble headstone in what is now Hillside Cemetery, is inscribed that he was a member of St. Tammany Lodge No. 83, Free Masons. Like the pioneer stock along the tortuous Delaware, he was a steersman following it until old age took him.

Many people living today have heard the name Rock Run but do not know what it is or how the name originated. A short distance west of Callicoon a little rivulet starting far on the hill above comes racing down the hillside bubbling and sparkling over the rocky bed as though eager to join or mingle with the broad waters of the Delaware. The dancing rivulet was named Rock Run.

Joseph Ross, the pioneer, his wife and some members of his family including his son-in-law, Nathaniel Tyler and wife are buried in the Ross private burying plot at the head of the binnekill above Callicoon.

CHAPTER VIII

June 10, 1927

In the days of which we write Big Eddy was the name of what is now Harrowsburg. When the Erie built its lines thru the Delaware valley the company named the station there Harrowsburg although a postoffice had been established in 1837 with John C. Pintler as postmaster. Both names were applicable to the place. The postoffice stuck to the name Big Eddy until 1851 when it was changed to Harrowsburg. In 1840 the Harrowsburg Hotel was built at the terminal of the East Hope-Lumberland turnpike. This thoroughfare was chartered in 1812 but was not opened through for traffic until some six or seven years later. May 3, 1850 the Honesdale and Harrowsburg turnpike was chartered with Commodore C. Murray as president of the company. This was a plank road and the opening took place on Friday, September 19, 1851. For several years thereafter Harrowsburg was a recognized business center. There was a four-horse Tally-Ho plying between the two terminals and all the flats and jetsam frequent highways. This was also the main artery for supplies to be hauled through to supply the needs of Honesdale and continued as such until after the branch railroad was laid up the Lackawanna valley.

RAFTING DAYS

Harrowsburg was a great steppingplace for raftsmen.

RAFTING DAYS

NARROWSBURG was a great stopping place for raftsmen. If they came along when wind and water were unfavorable they were drawn into the eddy and held there sometimes a half day or longer. A trick resorted to was then a raft got free from the whirl of the eddy and started with the current it drew another out by hitching ropes to it. In this way they were "out of the trap". But it took a long time.

It is said that in a big freshet in 1876 when lumbermen had waited a long time for it and all pulled out almost at once the river soon became almost a continuous streak of rafts. Light rafts were soon run down by the heavy ones and crowded shore, upon islands and torn to pieces. Big Eddy was literally jammed full of rafts. Some were sucked under by whirls, many were reduced to debris. Financial ruin was the part of some lumbermen. On such occasions it was nothing for a thousand raftsmen to seek lodging in a night.

GAS AT NARROWSBURG

In 1856 Narrowsburg received a sensation by the discovering of natural gas. The discovery was made by Dr. L.A. Winslow who was spending the summer at the Murray House in the village. One day the doctor was out rowing in the eddy. After lighting his pipe he threw the still blazing match upon the surface of the water, instantly a blaze started up on the water where the burning match had dropped. The flame was of bluish tint and soon went out. Then for the first time Dr. Winslow noticed that many bubbles were floating on the water and that they appeared to come up frequently and quickly from beneath the surface. He being something of a geologist knew at once that the bubbles were made by a gas that came from the ground or rock at the bottom of the river, and that the gas was of an inflammable nature. He touched a match to several bubbles and all responded to an instant blaze. At night he illuminated the whole eddy with these miniature bonfires. Dr. Winslow sounded the eddy and found that in places the water was ninety feet deep with a rocky bottom and at some places he could find no bottom at all. His theory was that the rocky bottom was full of crevices, of unknown depth and from the gas issued and found its way to the surface, forming the bubbles that constantly appeared and then spread upon the surface of the water. In the mud on shore and on the island this gas was found. The doctor inverted a barrel open side down, over a spot on the New York shore where gas came from the ground. He placed a small iron pipe in the upper end of the barrel and let it remain. After a time he touched a match to the orifice of the pipe. The gas ignited at once and burned steadily day and night. Nothing was ever done in the matter and the affair soon became one of the seven day wonders. With the Tally-Ho discontinued and the hauling of goods and other needed matter stopped, the village seemed to fall into a lethargy from which it is just awakening.

CARDING MILL STARTED

Prior to 1850 Thompson Parsons built a wood-working and wool-carding mill along Cashas Creek on the west road from where the Danascus Hi now stands. He turned pieces of furniture that was used in the cabinet and undertaking shop of his brother Joseph. Thomas Egerton, who resided near where the Milanville creamery now is bought the Parsons property and carded wool only. The parents consisted of the parents of the three children, Erastus D. and the Misses Nellie and Manie. The family migrated west where the son studied law and was admitted to the bar. On Feb. 8, 1903, Erastus, or Douglas as he was called, died at the home of his mother who was then residing at 319 Stuyvesant Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y. The old dwelling house was recently bought and razed by the Bischoff Bros. All parts of the frame were framed into the other parts; all studding was framed in even the cross joints around the windows and doors. From its appearance one would think that a cyclone would have had its match had it tackled it.

W.V. TYLER

Our pen would fail in its mission did we not give W.V. Tyler a more deserving notice than the one given in a preceding chapter. William Warren Tyler was born at Callicoon, N.Y. May 9, 1819 and died at the home of his daughter Louisa V. (Mrs. Theron Brittain, 15 Woodlawn Ave. Middletown, N.Y.) When our subject was yet young his parents migrated to Danascus. Here he spent the greater part of his life. His parents were Basaleel Tyler and Elizabeth Appleman and he was the last to answer the call. At coming on Dec. 22, 1904 he was 85 years old.

He came of Revolutionary stock. His grandfather, Silas Tyler, was at the siege at Yorktown and was a brother of the Capt. Bazaleel Tyler who was killed in the battle of the Minisink, July 22, 1779. In early life he engaged in lumbering later changing to the mercantile business. This was before the completion of the Erie Railroad and all his goods came by boat to Newburgh and were then hauled over the turnpike, a distance of eighty miles from Cocheaton. In 1850 he formed a partnership at Tyler Hill with John Miller, of Berkshire, N.Y. Five years later he bought the manor property at Damascus succeeding Hon. Nathaniel W. Vail and associated with Charles Irvine. One year later Mr. Irvine retired and James S. Vail of Chester, N.Y. took his place with Mr. Tyler. Prior to the Civil War he built the store building now owned by the Dermody Bros. and also built a sawmill across the road from it. In 1866 he disposed of this property and opened a store in his dwelling house where he continued in business until 1897 when the feebleness of old age caused him to retire from all business and go to reside with the daughter mentioned who was the only child of him and his wife Esther Lassley, who were married in 1845. The wife died December 7, 1895. In 1854 Mr. Tyler was appointed postmaster in the Damascus office in 1839 and with the exception of three years 1869-1872 he served as postmaster until 1897, a period of forty years. Politically he was a Democrat of the old school. He never aspired to civic position but was frequently elected to positions of trust. For a long time he was township treasurer, no other candidate opposing him. During the Civil War he was treasurer of the bounty fund for Damascus township. He was a man of charitable deeds and charitable in speech. He was a member of Delaware Lodge, 561, F. and A. M. His daughter did not long survive him.

CHAPTER IX.

July 8, 1927

In a previous article we introduced to you Joseph Grewald, the great landholder on the east side of the Delaware, and his strong attempt to get his vast territory colonized. He died in 1797, without having accomplished much. His son Edward, a prominent lawyer of New York with a large estate on Long Island succeeded to the Grewald patent. Edward died in 1836. A daughter of Edward succeeded to the title of Big Island and a territory reaching back some four or five miles in the New York state, her name being Madame Bertheux she having married a French general.

Prior to the disastrous ice gorge of 1867 the Callicoon Creek curved to the north and mingled with the Delaware near where the Bridge now stands. The piece of land between the river and creek was a beautiful flat covered with large pine and butternut trees. This flat of park was a recreation resort to the people of the village of Callicoon. But that disastrous ice gorge spoiled the makeup of the flat by destroying the grove and leaving only a dreary beach also changing the course of the creek to nearly the southend of the flat.

At the death of Edward Grewald James C. Curtis, a nephew, was made one of the executors of the estate and he continued as sales agent until 1858.

Madame Bertheux made her first visit to Cocheaton in 1849 and remained several months. She came again in 1857 and stayed nearly a year, boarding in the Cocheaton House then managed by Ed. M. Calkin. She died in 1866. It took until 1871 to find a purchaser for that vast estate of Joseph Grewald that he received from the crown in 1760.

On one of Edward Grewald's visits to France he made the acquaintance of John Brosteret, a collector of taxes. In the course of time he became a defaulter in a large sum. Napoleon had neither sympathy nor mercy for defaulting officers and Brosteret had the alternative of being shot or running away. Of course he chose the latter. Grewald sold him lot #61, which took in Big Island in the year 1804. Immediately Brosteret and his maid came to his new possession. On the bank was a small log house on the island built by David Young, the pioneer emigrant. Brosteret occupied this and added more to it, a porch and a half story addition. This latter stood for nearly a century as a monument of early days. This Frenchman, a bit peculiar in both tastes and habits, in fact they were so very much different from the people near that they drew forth much of it unfavorable. One of his customs was to eat but one

meal a day, and that about 1 o'clock, P.M. and gourmandise at that meal. The cooking was according to French methods. One of his favorite dishes was a pie made from birds of different species. The entrails were left in and the unplucked heads were left hanging over the edge of the dish in which the pie was baked. He did the carving and to those he was about to help he would point to the heads of the birds and ask if they would wish a swallow, a hawk, a woodpecker, blackbird, etc. Few ever ate at his table the second time. He paid his hired help good wages and if one was found shirking he was promptly discharged. He kept a small store. He was economical and would refuse to sell a laboring man a full pound of tea at once telling him it was extravagant. He frequently attended religious services in his church built by Thomas Shield and made the four mile trip on horseback. Being of a friendly disposition on these church going trips he would stop at homes as he passed and exchange friendly greetings.

BIG ISLAND EXCHANGES OWNERS

At the time Brosteret owned Big Island it contained some sixty acres of rich land under cultivation on which he raised large crops of wheat, corn, etc. He remained only two years on the island. Matters were smoothed over and the troubles threatening him in France and he soon returned. He left the mortgage uncanceled on his Big Island purchase and in 1816 Mr. Grosvald foreclosed and the property reverted to him again.

Prior to the coming of the whites to the island and Indian village was there and an Indian ~~meeting~~ place of burial was also there. There the Indians held their green corn dance and the games indulged in by the young braves. Before the start of the Revolution, William Conklin, the pioneer saw the Indians more than a half hundred at a time engage in their incantations and customs. Twice during the war Conklin was driven from his home by marauding Indians. As late as 1850 many Indian relics were plowed up on Big Island, stone hatchets, arrow heads, pistols, mortars, etc. The Delaware Indians also had a village at Silver Lake, where the Country Club is located. As late as when the property was owned by the Jacksons arrow heads of flint, pipes, pistols, mortars, etc. were uncovered by the plow. The village in all probability was located between the lakes, Silver and Laurel, which are only a short distance apart. Indian curios have been picked up all through the valley and adjoining hills.

In the Delaware break-up in Feb. 1857, the thick growth of huge pines growing at the head of Big Island caught and held in check the huge cakes of ice. As there was not volume enough of water behind them to push them forward the ice kept jamming until it filled the river from bank to bank as far up as Callicoon. The Barton bridge at that point was carried away bodily and the water reached to the floor of the second story of many of the dwellings. That was the first time that any resident of the Cocheton valley had ever seen the Delaware overflow its banks with destructive force. All the lower part of the village of Callicoon was also inundated, too, but it was by back-water with no current. The Delaware has cut many capers since.

In 1858 John Baird of Brooklyn, N.Y. and Philip and Thomas O'Reilly of Cocheton Valley associated and purchased what remained of Lot 61. This included Big Island and adjacent timber land in New York state amounting to 1700 acres. The cutting of the big pines soon followed.

SOME BIG PINE TREES

Succeeding this Judge Moses Tyler and son Calvin bought the standing pine on Pine Island. So large were these rare trees that an order was sent to the saw factory of Wheeler Madden and Clemson of Middletown, N.Y. to make them a cross cut to order in length. The O'Reillys cut pine for years off the tract of the East Delaware. One raft of yellow pine was composed of yellow pine sticks 70 feet in length. These were taken across the canal thru New Jersey to New York. The denuding of Big Island and Pine Island changed very materially the aspect of St. Tammany Flats. But the removal of St. Tammany Lodge No. 83, the death of Daniel Skinner and his two sons, and the failure of the turnpike to come thru that section of laid St. Tammany village desolate. At one time beside the Frenchman there were wht Admiral and his two sons. Reuben was a Justice of the Peace John Simmons, John Conklin who married a Skinner, James Seeley. There were a blacksmith and carpenter shop and a store was opened after the departure of Brosteret. The little village had begun to put on airs but also pride gotth before a fall. Admiral Skinner died in 1813. and had two sons

his two sons followed in a year or two. The Admiral was buried in a spot of his own selection on the farm upon which he had experienced joys and sorrows of a pioneer life. A simple sandstone split from a nearby rock, inscribed upon which were the name date of birth and death, was set to mark the resting place of this famous pioneer who came with his parents at the age of 22 and toiled there three score years. The remains of Reuben Skinner were buried in the Shields cemetery Danascus but was later exhumed and re-interred in the new Baptist cemetery. The remains of another son, in 1790, and of his wife in 1808, were laid in the family plot on St. Tammany Flats. The last direct information the writer has had in regard to this family plot and the headstone of the Admiral was that the stone was broken off and no longer marks the spot of burial but was set against the body of an apple tree at some distance away by some thoughtful visitor who may have thought it a sacrilege to tread there. This left the flats occupied only by George Bush, who married Annie, daughter of Reuben Skinner, and Judge Moses Tyler, the only occupants of the historic Flats.

CHAPTER X

July 25, 1923

In days long, long ago, there was a certain gathering where wine was used and the good wine was served last, so we read in the Book of Books. While we are not offering wine and are in no way connected with it it occurred to us to hold matters connected with the Cochection Church for later writing and think the time is now.

THE COCHECTION CHURCH

The Cochection Presbyterian Church was organized by Rev. Charles Cummings, D.D. in 1812, with only fifteen members, one of the fifteen being Miss Prudence Irvine, and she remained a consistent member as long as she lived. The church had no regular pastor until 1845 assumed the role of pastor. Where church services were held prior to 1840 the writer is unable to say but in that year a church edifice with a seating capacity of three hundred people, was built at a cost of \$1,800. Preceding the erection of a house of worship, Rev. George McEwen preached to the flock. Since its organization to the present time some three hundred names have been enrolled upon its classbook. We are unable to give a complete list of ministers who have served the flock as for a long time the pulpit was only supplied. Rev. George M. McEwen 1840-41, Rev. William Riddle 1842-3, Rev. John Mole, 1845-7; Rev. William Hunting 1851; Rev. George K. Mariner 1852-3; Rev. Thomas Mock, 1853-9; Rev. Erastus Reynour 1860-63; Rev. Samuel Murdock 1863-4; Rev. Theron Brittain, 1864-89. Rev. George Northrup was a settled pastor for a number of years. Rev. Murdock came back the second time. Rev. Otto R. W. Klose filled the pulpit for several years. Rev. A. G. Musselman was pastor for a time also. Preceding this chapter we recounted the fate of this edifice and the erection of another building. At this point permit us to digress, as the preachers say, to give a brief chapter on the inner life of Rev. John Mole or Dominic Mole as he was familiarly known through this section. He with his family resided in the hollow south of Tyler Hill now owned by Bischoff Bros. So far as we can learn he built the dwelling house and it was a fancy one for those primitive times. Dominic Mole was a sort of a circuit rider, preaching in homes or wherever he could find a covering, and of course was given free board and horse feed, for he rode horseback. One of his itinerant trips took him thru the section now called Ateo, where lived William D. Guinnip now of Honesdale. Mr. Guinnip had a pair of horses a little better than ordinary, one of them especially. This good one took the Dominic's fancy and he told Mr. Guinnip he would like to own the animal. When not in the harness and the weather was warm the horses were turned out in the pasture near the barn. When the nights grew cool the horses were stabled. Different times when about to harness the animals in the morning he would find certain straps misplaced and was always at a loss to account for the phenomenon, or mystery. This continued for some time. One morning the hired man went to the barn early to feed the horses as usual. It must have been dark of the tallow candle did not shed much light- he threw their measures of feed into the feed box and went into the house to eat his own breakfast. When he returned to the barn to harness the horses to go to work there were no horses to harness and the mess of feed showed that there were none there when he threw the feed into the mangers. He satisfied the tidings to Mr. Guinnip who hastened to the barn. An examination of

tracks showed that they went behind the barn. One shoe of one horse there was a peculiarly shaped calk. The track was followed into an unused brush road. Both horses had been spirited away in the darkness. Procuring a horse from a neighbor Mr. Guinnip started in pursuit. It had dawned upon him who had taken the horses. It was easy tracking until he got upon the Newburg turnpike but he continued westward. George E. Mitchell, then a boy of twelve had seen a man whom he recognized passing the house of his parents where James Smith now lives. The man averted his face but the boy was positive of his identity. (It was this boy then a feeble old man past eighty who first told us of this story and later we got a correct version in a letter from ex-Hon. W.B. Guinnip who said he was very young at the time but had heard his father tell it so often that it soon became familiar to him. Mr. Guinnip followed the lead to Montrose, Susquehanna County and stopping at a hotel he inquired whether a man with a horse had stopped there early that morning. Being answered in the affirmative he asked to see the horse. This request was granted.

Mr. Guinnip easily identified his horse but the landlord refused to give it up saying that the man had hired a horse and wagon for him to go to Delhi and had left the horse as security. The horse showed great fatigue and that is why the thief abandoned it. At this piece of news the hotel man became nervous but would not give Mr. Guinnip the horse. Mr. Guinnip then took counsel and returning to the hotel told the landlord what he might expect if he did not give up the horse. The landlord drove to Delhi and there found the livery rig at a hotel where he had offered the outfit for \$15. The thief saw that suspicion was aroused when someone remarked that he must have stolen the rig to offer it so cheap, and took leg bail for his honesty could not be found. Mr. Guinnip got his horse and brought it back home but it never recovered from the hard ride.

The Monington boy at Tyler Hill told Mr. Guinnip the man on the horse was Dominic Hale and so it proved to be for he was never seen around here again although Mr. Guinnip was on the alert to get him. Later word reached Mr. Guinnip that the Dominic has stolen another horse in New York State, was captured and was sent to Sing Sing. The family soon left the place. Only a few years ago a decrepit fellow appeared at Bischoff place and stated to them that he used to live there some years ago but everything was so much changed that he could not recognize the landmarks. It must have been a son as the Dominic would have been over a centurian by that time. So much for a preacher of the gospel, a rascal in clerical garb.

In Mr. Guinnip's absence his neighbors became busy and searching nearby field and patches of woods thinking that perhaps the thief had secreted the horses not having adequate time to make a good get away that nite. They were rewarded inasmuch as they found one of the horses in an out of the way pasture field tied down so it could not follow its mate. So to speak he had the matter all cut and dried before entering the Guinnip barn. He had figured that if he had taken one and left the other in the barn the animal would have done some neighing or have made other kinds of noises that would have awakened the family. As he left the horse in a back place it could not very well attract attention. He certainly studied more than his Sunday sermon text.

Although we have made a long digression we must return to the Cocheston church matter once more. Abijah H. Calkin was born in Cocheston on July 13, 1815. In his young days he united with the Presbyterian church at that place. On April 22, 1855, at the age of forty when principal of the Damascus Union Academy, he was baptized and united with the Baptist church of Damascus. November 28, 1856 he was ordained and in 1856 became pastor of the aforesaid Baptist church, a position which he successfully filled for ten years. In 1866 Rev. Calkin was called to the Baptist church in Waverly where he remained as pastor for twenty years. He died in 1886, and was brought to Damascus for burial in the Baptist cemetery. His wife died in 1883.

For the first wife Rev. Brittain married Miss Etta, dau. of Dr. William L. Appley. By this union there is one son Dr. Robert Brittain, of Downsville, N.Y. while Rev. Brittain may have had his faults he endeared himself to his flock. He preached in the Calkin Union Church and often walked there on Sunday morning thence back via Milanville where he would preach in the schoolhouse and con-

conduct Sunday School. Old men of today will speak reverentially of Rev. Brittain and feel how he would come out doors at Sunday school time where knots of big boys were sitting swapping yarns and with gentle persuasion draw them into the class. Many thank him for the services he did for them when they were on the apex of the hill of temptation. Some people possess this gentle persuasive, power and can accomplish what bully and bluster with a go and do it command would not.

CHAPTER XI

August 9, 1927

The lineage of the Bushes in the Cochection section of the Delaware valley are traceable to Simeon Bush, one of the pioneers who came here with the Rosses, the Calkins, the Skinners and Tylers and was a half brother of the latter. His wife was Hannah Smith of Orange Co. N.Y., and their progeny were George, John, Eli, Polly, Kesiah, Wadie, Eleanor, and Abbie. The oldest son, George, married Anna daughter of Reuben Skinner. Jesse Bush and Simeon Bush were their sons, but the names of the other members of the family are unknown to us. Eli married Abbie Ross and their four sons were Artemus T., George S., Walter J., and Willard J. In 1818 George succeeded to the title of the upper end of St. Tammany Flats from his father-in-law Reuben Skinner, and Eli was given a title to the lower end of the Flats. The old log house with its stone chimney was still standing when the property passed out of the Bush name and became the property of Nelson Conklin, later transferred to the Porr Bros. of Cochection.

FOUND HONESDALE PAPER

Leroy Bonesteel, whose father, William Bonesteel died in 1869 (69), went to Honesdale and founded the Wayne County Democrat. Later he became associated with a man named Beardsley. The paper was issued twice a week and the name changed to the Semi-Weekly Democrat. At the death of his father Leroy gave up newspaper work, returned to Damascus and took charge of the grist mill. He married Mary, daughter of S.K. Vail of Rileyville. One son, William, survives, and resides in Brooklyn, N.Y. He married a daughter of Martin O'Reilly, Jr., who was a son of Thomas O'Reilly.

PHILIP O'REILLY

Martin O'Reilly, Sr. came to America from Longford, Ireland in 1820. After a residence of one year in Newburgh, N.Y. the family came to Cochection Valley. Philip the oldest, son and member of the firm of T and P O'Reilly who did a mixed traffic here until the death of the surviving brother Thomas in 1886 was born May 2, 1814. At the age of 20 Philip went to Honesdale where he accepted a clerkship in the store of his brother-in-law, Capt. Edward Murray. He served there for seven years. Philip had ideas of his own and he was restless, anxious to put his ideas into execution. Accordingly he bought a horse and wagon, and started westward and making no permanent halt until he reached the Mississippi river. There he remained until Iowa was made a state. In 1848 he drove on westward across the plains and for the next succeeding 20 years made his home in Oregon and California, remaining on these territories until they became states. He engaged in business in that wild country and during the Indian war, acted as commissary general for the government. Twice he was wounded by the Indians, once in the neck by an arrow, and another time in the body by a bullet. In 1847 he returned to Cochection. But he was still restless and the lure of the west was strong and after a stay of a few months returned to California. He remained there about a year and a half when he again came back to Damascus and bought the property, dwelling, store, and real estate of Walter S. Vail where he and his brother Thomas started the firm name and embarked in a general merchandise business. The dwelling house is still doing service (1927) and the store building has been turned into a garage. Somewhere about 1873 Philip went back to California and Oregon and settled his business in those states. At one time he had a claim of \$160,000 against the government. Part of this obligation was cancelled less than two years before his death on September 7, 1881, caused by a railroad accident in which he had both legs severed when a train passed over them as he was crossing the Erie lines at Port Jervis. His deeds of charity were innumerable. He was universally called "Uncle Phil". His death ended the business activities in both lumbering and mercantile trade and the long known firm name dropped into obscurity.

The IRVINE ancestry in this valley traces back to Charles Irvine who located here about 1798 coming from Ireland. For a time he taught school and afterward launched into a more lucrative work. In about 1800 he married Weighty a dau. of Oliver Calkin, the survivor of the Minisink, who left a large landed estate. At the completion of the turnpike he built a hotel on the present site of the Irvine homestead. This hotel enjoyed a large patronage during the war of 1812. During the war a recruiting sergeant made this hotel his headquarters while enlisting young men for service. Irvine managed the hotel until it was burned in 1825. Previous to the building of the hotel he erected a dwelling house the same one now serving as a home for his great grand-daughter, Mrs. Estella Pinney Appley. When the hotel burned, he and his family migrated to Sellagsgreve in the Susquehanna valley and he became manager of a large paper factory owned by his brother Hood. He died in a few months later and the wife and family returned to Cochection and took up their residence in the same house they formerly lived in, remaining in it until her death in 1857 and her two daughters remained in it until their death in the middle 80's.

Our subjects, Charles Irvine and Weighty Calkin, had six sons, viz. Alexander, Charles, Jared, William, John and Hood; also the two daughters named. Alexander married Mary Anna Coots, Charles married Amanda Drake. Charles Irvine, 2nd took up a residence in Damascus, taking a clerkship in the store of Walter S. Vail and ten years later associating in the same mercantile business with Nathaniel Vail continuing ten years when Vail withdrew and Warren Taylor became Irvine's partner and they continued in the business until about 1860 when he retired from all business. At his death in 1885 he was said to be the wealthiest man in Damascus township. To the knowledge of the writer Charles Irvine and Amanda Alamanda had but one son, Fred, and one daughter, Alice. The son died young and the daughter became the wife of Dr. Otto Appley of Damascus. The Irvines were a patriotic family for four grandsons of Charles Irvine and Weighty Calkin served in the Civil War, viz; Walter V. (Vail), William (Billy the last to answer the call) Newell and Alonzo. Newell was killed near Petersburg and he was buried in the National Cemetery at Arlington. Alonzo was taken prisoner and after his release came back to Cochection to regain his health but the foulness of a military prison had done its work and he, too, soon answered the final call. His remains were laid to rest in the Presbyterian Cemetery in Cochection. You will notice, dear reader, that we have hurried through the career of those generations of Irvines. We would willingly dwell at a greater length but this work would become a huge volume which was not our intention at the start. These people just mentioned followed after the real path-blazers as gleaners only but they made their part in the early history of their time the same as the present generation is filling in their epoch for future generation.

Thomas O'Reilly was the stationary engine in the business of the firm and at death of the O'Reilly Brothers the firm of Baird and O'Reilly ceased and the lumber interest passed to the sons of Thomas, James and William. Thomas had his residence on the Cochection side of the Delaware close to the Bridge. The dwelling stands today. The breakup in the river in 1902 injured one of the annexes although in a liveable condition the house is without an occupant.

SOME OLD PRICES

Pre-Civil war wages and prices of groceries would make the housewife and laborer feel rather down in-the-lip. A laborer then received from \$6 to \$8 a month and his board, and maybe washing, and not more than \$18 or \$20 dollars a month if the man was married and boarded at home. His hours, not eight a day, but was often before sun up until sometimes long after the sun had disappeared. He had the same routine of chores to do on Sunday but the labor in fields or woods was stopped for the day. Where the hired man had a family farm produce was often substituted for cash. To show the different prices existing between farm produce we will state an instance where the writer's maternal parent took some butter into the O'Reilly's store to trade for drygoods. She received 60¢ a pound for her butter and was charged 75¢ a yard for unbleached muslin. A tailor would make a suit of homespun for \$2. and sew every stitch by hand. The sewing was back stitch that could not be ripped and the thread was thoroughly waxed by drawing it repeatedly through a cake of beeswax after the needle was threaded ready for sewing.

Chewing tobacco cost the user \$2. a pound, and the housewife paid \$2 a pound for her tea. A crude quality cost from sixteen to twenty cents a pound and wheat flour \$20. a barrel. Hiking was the fashion when shopping was to be done. In very primitive times the men folks were obliged to shoulder a bag of grain to the grist mill. We have been told that people came from Canaan township to get grinding done in the Damascus mill. The trip was not made the same day. Later a mill for grinding was built in Slocum Hollow, near Scranton. Happy were the days for the farmer when he could hitch his oxen to a cart and go to mill making his way over corduroy roads, and when they could hitch a pair of horses to their old skein farm wagon with a couple of boards reaching from bolster to bolster in the form of a spring board they thought themselves high enough in the world to peer into paradise.

CHAPTER XII

August 16, 1928

THE THOMAS FAMILY

Both historical and traditional accounts differ in regard to when and why the Thomases appear in local accounts of the Cushetunk or Conecton Valley. There is an account that Moses Thomas and Aaron Thomas, brothers, were sent to this section to look after the interests of the Penn Brothers but they bought their land under the Connecticut claim. Another statement is that in 1750 Moses came to Cushetunk and located on the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware almost directly across from where in modern times the New York Transit Company had a Pump station. The farm is yet spoken of as the Thomas farm. As one of the older generations of Rosses married a Thomas. The farm was then called the Ross farm. Moses Thomas, 1st, was shot by Indians in 1763, which will be taken up later. Moses Thomas 2nd, was survived by four children. At the time of his death a son which was named Moses 3rd, was a baby in its mother's arms. There were three daughters, the oldest of whom married Reuben Decker, Rebecca married Abram Barnes and Hannah married Oliver Calkin who resided in or near Warrowsburg. After the death of her husband Mrs. Thomas returned from the Minisink section and took up her residence on the Thomas farm. Later she married Capt Jesse Drake who came up from the lower waters of the Delaware and became the forbear of the Drakes who later figured prominently in the business of this section. Moses the third grew to be a prominent man in Wayne county, having held office for over twenty-five years. He was commissioner from 1808 to 1815. He was then commissioned by Governor Snyder to fill the vacancy in the associate judgeship of the Wayne county courts made by the resignation of Judge Stanton. He remained as associate judge from 1815 to 1839. On his headstone in the Damascus cemetery, the inscription: Hon. Moses Thomas died March 9, 1857, aged 79 years, and below this - Rebecca Monington, his wife, died Sept. 20, 1841 aged 59 years. The children of the above named couple were William, Jesse, Chauncey, Moses, Sarah, Clara, Susan. Jesse D. married Amanda Skinner and Emma Bunnell. Sarah married Ransome Young, Clara married Bazaleel Ross and Susan married John Hankins. Chauncey Thomas mentioned above, was born at Shohola April 28, 1850 entered the Naval Academy in 1867, and graduated in 1871 standing third in the class. For four years he was private secretary of Admiral Porter and was later assigned to the frigate Wabash and later he was sent to Alaska. He navigated the battleship Oregon on its memorable trip around Cape Horn to Portsmouth Navy Yard. He was on the Yorktown in the Philippine insurrection and was in command of the Maryland when it took honors in target practice. He was made captain in 1906. He died May 12, 1918 at Pacific Grove, California.

Mrs. Clara Ross remained on the homestead with her family of six sons and two daughters until her death. One of the sons, John R. served in the Civil War and was promoted to a Captaincy. When he returned to private life he served Wayne county as high sheriff for three years.

Although but little is said of Aaron Thomas he must have filled in his chapter in local affairs. He located below Conecton Falls, the same farm being in possession of the Dockers for a number of years.

Captain Jesse DRAKE, after marrying the widow Thomas, whose husband Moses, 2nd, was slain in the Minisink massacre, continued on the homestead helping to raise his step family until Moses 3rd was able to manage matters and at the same time the captain had to care for his own rising family. After Moses 3rd married,

Drake bought a farm adjacent to that of Aaron Thomas and built an imposing house for those times. The family of Jesse Drake and Abigail Tyler-Thomas were Christina who became the wife of Jonathan Lillie, Martha, born 1783 (1787) married James Mitchell, Charles born Jan. 10, 1789, married Weighty Bush and Jesse Jr., born 1791- married Abigail Tyler, granddaughter of Capt. Bazaleel Tyler. Capt. Drake survived his wife and remarried and he had one son, Benjamin. Capt. Drake died in 1838 aged 83 years. He won his title as captain in the war of the Revolution.

A PROMINENT PIONEER

Moses Thomas 1st was one of the foremost leading men of the Cushetunk. (Cochecton Valley) settlement. It was through his wise counsel that the Fort or Block house, was built. The building was composed of squared timbers, made square by hewing them with an ax, and laid one upon another until the required height of the walls was reached. As the building was erected by Moses Thomas and Simeon Calkin. If the square sticks of timber were of large dimensions two men could not have hoisted them into place. Perhaps they made a "bee" to put up the building. No matter how the different sticks were assembled the whole plan showed splendid forethought from the well inside to the finish of the apex and it accomplished its mission, it saved lives. It is said that at this day the well shows in evidence-and nature, seemingly to mark the spot raised three giant sycamore trees near the spot, silent guardians to its memory.

A REMARKABLE GIRL

We rehearse the siege of this fort mainly for one purpose, the presence of an eight year old girl, Hannah, the daughter of Moses Thomas. You will note later how she became a power in shaping the destiny of the succeeding generations of her progeny. At her tender age she actually trained a musket against the attacking band of Indians who held her and her kin prisoners within this strong hold built upon her father's farm for protection for just such an emergency. This siege happened in the fall of 1763. The boys of Helkirk Willis, who lived near to what is now called Harrowsburg, while raking buckwheat saw some Indians dodging around in the nearby woods. They were different in appearance from the Cushetunk Indians and it aroused the suspicion of the boys. They at once started for the Cushetunk settlement to give the alarm. The boys soon covered the intervening distance and told what they had observed. The men thought the boys were mistaken but as a precautionary measure ordered the women and the children to the fort while they went to reconnoiter. For some reason there were but three men in the settlement at the time. These three, Moses Thomas, Willis, and a man named Whittier, went in the direction whence the Indians would appear. On reaching the top of the steep river bank perhaps a quarter of a mile from the fort they saw Indians eating turnips in a field, later the property of Colonel Skinner. The discovery by both parties was simultaneous. The Indians fired. Thomas fell dead and Willis was mortally wounded. Whittier was unhurt and sped back to the fort. He at once dispatched Elias Thomas and Jacob Dana to Minisink for aid and sent Moses Thomas, 2nd to warn the settlers farther up the river of the conditions at Cushetunk. The oldest of these boys was not yet eleven years and they were obliged to thread their way through an unbroken forest liable at any moment to fall into the hands of Indians or fall the prey to wild beasts. But an unseen hand guided them and when the boys reached the Minisink, they found that the alarm had preceded them. Whittier was the only man in the fort but he was something of a ventriloquist as well as a commanding general. He made it appear to the Red Devils outside that the fort was full of men and it made them cautious. The fiends outside tried several times to get near enough to the fort to fire it but were driven back by firing from within. They continued their fiendishness all night long. When daylight came they applied the torch to every building, dwellings and mills, and left the whole settlement devastated, excepting the fort. The next day brought relief from Minisink but the Indians had gone. Relieved from their harassing vigil the people abandoned the fort and made hasty departure from what had once been their home. Before going the men found the bodies of the two men slain and hastily committed them to the earth. The spark of life left in Willis by the bullet had been finished with the tomahawk and both had been scalped. The little band then embarked in canoes for the Minisink settlement glad to get away from such barbaric scenes.

in later years when peace was restored they returned and began life again. After years it was found that the bones of Thomas and Willis had been uncovered by the erosions of the river into the bank, and Moses 3rd gathered them together and gave them a resting place in the Milanville cemetery. Moses Thomas 1st, the man slain by the Indians, left five children: Elias Moses, Huldah who became the wife of Abraham Ross, Sarah who became the wife of Nathaniel Evans and Hannah who became the wife of Oliver Calkin, son of Dr. John Calkin who in 1754 settled on the New York state side of the Delaware nearly directly across from the fort. Hannah was the little eight year old girl who figured so conspicuously and courageously in the defense of the fort. Moses Thomas 2nd was the boy who went to alarm the settlers farther up the Delaware. When peace was restored among the natives and the settlers in the Cushetunk Valley he returned to the settlement and the farm. He married Abigail Tyler, sister of Babaleel Tyler, who was captain of militia in the Minisink battle and was killed in that massacre falling near Tyler. It was said a Tory named Cornelius Cole was the man who fired the fatal bullet. Trouble and jealousy soon arose between the Connecticut colonies and the Pennsylvania colonies also between the Indians and the colonies so that little peace of mind for the settlers prevailed. The Indians by their chief of the Delawares, Teedyuscung, who disapproved of the encroachments of the whites upon their possessions, in a conference, April 1761 with Lieutenant-Governor Hamilton and Richard Peters this chief set forth the claim of his people. Soon after this meeting Lt. Gov. sent James Hindshaw to Cushetunk to see what was being done and learn the intention of the venturesome settlers. He made his trip in the same month the conference was held and reported to his superior on April 29, 1761. This report stated that at Cushetunk he was hospitably entertained at the house of Moses Thomas, an Englishman, and one of the leading men of the settlement; saw over the Thomas door a placard signed by Moses Thomas notifying all the settlers to meet at the Thomas house on the following Monday to choose a magistrate and other officers for the ensuing year and to hold consultation on matters concerning the settlement. This was the first election of officers or town meeting held in the settlement, and in Wayne County. Hindshaw found Moses Thomas working in a new gristmill and grinding corn. When Hindshaw explained his mission Thomas expressed amusement that Lord Penn should send such a proclamation threatening them with Indians. He said he had settled there under the Connecticut right which was considered right, but if it was not he would hold his land under Lord Penn, which was all the same to him. This land or farm of 125 acres was not secured until Moses the third secured a warrantee for the same. This warrantee was No. 179. Hindshaw reported that he saw a good sized blockhouse for protection against Indians and that the settlers intended to procure some swivel guns to mount upon it to use in case of an invasion. This same year William Allen, Chief Justice of the providence commanded the sheriff of Northampton county to arrest Daniel Skinner, Timothy Skinner, Simeon Calkin, John Smith, Jedidiah Willis, James Adams, Erwin Evans, and others for intruding upon territory of the Indians without permission. The following year, 1762, John Jennings, high sheriff of Northampton county contemplating the Cushetunk people sent John Williamson to gain what information he could relative to the settlement and his report to his chief read as follows: Sixteen families are settled along the river there. The settlement extends 7 miles. Their head man is named Moses Thomas and his brother Aaron Thomas, one and a half miles from him. There are besides these: Isaac Tracy, Christopher Tracy, Jonathan Tracy, Reuben Jones, Moses Kimball, Levi Kimball, James Pennin, Daniel Cosh, Nathan Parks, Tyler and Cummings. In all there are forty men. They told me they had their right under New England said their land held good for 50 miles up the river and that they would fight for it to the bitter end. The settlement is prosperous, some have four or five acres of Indian corn, some three, some two. No wheat. They live in good log houses covered with white pine shingles, or boards. There are vast quantities of that kind of timber there and very fine. There is a scarcity of wheat bread. They get the corn in canoes from Minisink. None of the settlers were arrested and the matter was dropped. But in 1763 as was seen in this chapter the Indian changed the whole aspect for a time.

September 13, 1927

CHAPTER XIII

It is because we have had men who were willing to suffer, to die, to and to sacrifice that we have a country such as America is today; and by that spirit only that America will be held as the country we love and as it gives an inspiration to think of those men, and women, too, for they had their mission to fulfill in the struggle, hardy and determined to open a wilderness to civilization. It was accomplished by quiet sensible, honest, real men, where would we today find men to push forward, on and on, as did the pioneers of this now peaceful valley of the Delaware, then full of danger and death? Such dependable men are few indeed.

CAPTAIN BAZALEEL TYLER

Captain Bazaleel Tyler, a martyr of the Minisink, was born in Windham County, Conn. February 26, 1745. He came with his parents to the Cushetunk (Cochecton) valley in about 1754, and was the oldest of a family of three sons and three daughters. Having come to a land without schools his educational advantages were few but possessing fine natural abilities he added to his knowledge from such books as he was able to procure. He married in early manhood a daughter of Dr. John Calkin, a member of the Delaware Land Co. who had come to the Cochecton Valley when the Tylers did. Young Tyler bought a tract of land on the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware nearly opposite where Old Cochecton stands and cleared upon it a fine farm which later passed into the possession of the Bushes and which remained in the Bush family for over eighty years. In 1775 associated with Daniel Skinner, Captain Tyler bought a tract of land on Hollister Creek and they built a sawmill.

In those primal days the woods and streams teemed with meat and fish but groceries and such necessities were hard to get. For these they were obliged to go down to Peenpack, now Port Jervis, and the task was a tedious one. From the Cochecton Valley Peenpack lay in direct route to the New England settlements. Captain Tyler was frequently engaged in transporting supplies from Peenpack for the settlers bringing them both by land and water. In doing this he became very familiar with the wild territory lying between the two places. This knowledge of the country made his services valuable to Col Hawthorne in the pursuit of Brandt and the Indians from the Peenpack Massacre.

At the beginning of the troubles between Great Britain and her colonies the settlers who came under the auspices of the Delaware Land Company with Captain Tyler as leader espoused the cause of the colonies and were called Whigs, while the old settlers, or those who claimed title to the land under grants from the provinces of New York or New Jersey, desired to remain neutral in the coming contest for fear of exciting the hostilities of the Indians and were called Tories. Much ill feeling had existed between these parties following the advent of the Connecticut claimants. After the murder of the Carter family in 1777, by the Indians many of the Whigs removed with their families to Minisink or Goshen for safety.

THE WHIG-TORY AFFAIR

At the exact time Captain Tyler left his home is but conjecture, but he stopped at Peenpack and was at once appointed Captain over a company of scouts organized by the Committee of Safety of Nanakating. The Capt with his company made several trips to Cochecton and Callicoon, to regulate suspicious chatters and make reprisals. The Tories appropriated the abandoned property of their former Whig neighbors and to counteract the scouts drove away the cattle of the Tories and made prisoners of the most prominent Tories. On one of these expeditions Capt. Tyler and his company met a Tory who was riding a horse that he had stole from a Whig at Peenpack. On his attempt to escape capture the Tory was shot and the horse captured.

Near Big Island between Cochecton and Callicoon the party stopped at the house of a Tory. As seemed to be usual on these occasions the male members of the house were absent, but the women advised the party to retreat, giving the reason that Brandt and 500 Indians were at the house of Captain Ross at Callicoon. Capt. Tyler did not heed this counsel but crossed the river to the Pennsylvania side. Capt. Tyler with some of his men reconnoitered to see if they had been lied to. When they arrived opposite the house of Capt Ross they discovered a large party of Indians. This decided them to turn down the Delaware again. When they reached Big Eddy they met Robert Land and a man

named Davis, coming up the river in a canoe. They were arrested and taken to Pennpack where they were lodged in jail. They were later released and Land and his family made their way to Canada as matters were becoming disagreeable for him along the Delaware. (We will refer to him in a succeeding article)

BRANDT'S ATTACK

On the 18th of July 1779, Brandt with some 300 Mohawk warriors and Tory allies attacked the Pennpack settlement and destroyed a church and grist mill and twenty or more buildings, killed a number of men, women and children. He then retreated up the river driving with him cattle and horses and confiscating a large quantity of moveable goods. The militia of Orange county and the fugitives of Pennpack, then devastated village under command of Colonel Tusten and Col. Hawthorne, hastily organized and began a pursuit of the offenders. Capt. Tyler, Oliver Calkin, Moses Thomas wd, refugees from Cochecton, joined the company as volunteers and engaged in the memorable fight of July 22, 1779. Calkin escaped but Thomas and Tyler were killed. There certainly must have been more than these three men from Pennsylvania in this battle but history fails to have recorded their names. Forty years after this fight the bones of all these martyrs were gathered together, taken to Goshen and buried with appropriate ceremonies and a suitable monument erected to their memory. It is said that Capt. Tyler was shot by a Tory who managed to get near him. History gives praise to Tyler's actions on that memorable battle field. His descendants have furnished names of honor in succeeding wars; the War of 1812 and the Civil War and sealed their devotion to the Union with their blood.

SKETCH OF PARKS

We deem this chapter a suitable place to speak of Josiah Parks, the forehand of Admiral Daniel Skinner's second raft run down the Delaware. Parks was born in New London, Conn., in 1745 and was the first white man to settle at Equinunk. At an early age he served on a British man-of-war, where he distinguished himself for bravery and was made a boatswain. Upon leaving the navy he settled in Ulster Co. N.Y., where he remained until the beginning of the Revolutionary War. He entered the Continental army as a scout his field of action being the country lying between the Hudson and the Delaware rivers, a region infested by loyalists and their savage allies, the Indians. At one time he went to the Wyoming valley and warned the settlers of the impending massacre. Few heeded the warning and these he brought back with him to the Cochecton Valley. At some time before the Revolutionary War Parks migrated with his family to Equinunk, reaching it by the open gateway to this section, the Delaware river, pushing a canoe, with all his earthly possessions and his family, against its strong current. He and his family lived for some time in a cave at Equinunk where was born to them soon after 1776 a daughter the first white child born in that locality. Because of his occupation as scout he became the especial object of hatred by the Tories. On one occasion they took him prisoner, but while they made preparation to roast him he escaped. Finally being warned by a friendly Indian of a plot to absolutely destroy him he again put his family in a canoe and when the Delaware was in flood and filled with floating ice, pushed down the stream until he reached the protection of the little blockhouse, or fort at Cochecton. Parks returned to Equinunk but was again obliged to leave. Undaunted he again returned to enjoy the peace that had come to the country at the successful ending of the long siege of war, and no longer a scout he went un molested. He built a house on Equinunk Island which then belonged to Pennsylvania. It is reasonable to suppose that the intrepid pathfinder cleared the land and got the peace and quiet of life that he so ardently worked to bring about. At one time it is said he owned Stockport Flats, but sold them for a mere pittance was always poor in purse and died that way. Mrs. Prudence Lakin was one of his daughters.

Along the Delaware is given precedence for its first clearing by white men; the first Masonic Lodge; the first Delaware River Bridge; the first saw and grist mills; the first fort; the first Justice of the Peace; the first town meeting, called by Moses Thomas; the first church; the first frame house erected in 1796 by John Land, a two story structure that stands in good condition today; the first Indian battle fought; the first store started; the first raft constructed; the first turnpike built across the largest township in Wayne County.

September 20, 1927

DELAWARE VALLEY

26

Bazaleel Tyler who came to the Cochection valley, married a sister of Dr. John Calkin. These brothers-in-law came here at the solicitation of Joseph Griswald, who purchased an unusually large tract of land extending eastward from the Delaware, the date of their coming being around 1754. Dr. Calkin and wife had a family of seven children, four sons and three daughters. John the oldest son settled near Earlville; Oliver, the second son settled on the Cochection Flats; Moses the third son settled somewhere along the Chemung river and Abner, the fourth son, settled along the Mohawk river. Oliver Calkin was born in 1750. In 1755 he married Hannah Thomas, daughter of Moses Thomas and she was the eight year old girl who so heroically wielded a musket in the blockhouse in the Cushetunk settlement on that memorable fight with the Indians in 1763. Four years following his marriage, Oliver took part in the battle of the Minisink, July 22, 1779. Oliver escaped injury in the battle. The year following the massacre, Dr. Calkin, his son Oliver and their families returned to their homes in the Cochection valley whence they had in 1778 fled to Goshen for safety. The Doctor and his wife, upon their return, made their home with their son Oliver until after the latter's death. Both were laid to rest in Salem where they were born. They saw many hardships and privations in frontier life in what is now the peaceful valley of the Delaware.

THE HARDENBURGH PATENT

In 1763, four years preceding his death by drowning in the summer of 1787 while fording the Delaware river at the head of Pine Flats, near Hankins, Oliver Calkin purchased lot # 63 of the Hardenburgh Patent containing more than 3000 acres. He should say he contracted for this land for he did not have the purchase price to put down. The Hardenburgh Patent was granted to Johannes Hardenburgh and eight others in 1708 but was not surveyed nor divided until 1749. At that time nearly all the original patentees were dead. It was surveyed into large lots and then these subdivided that the heirs might receive equal shares. This 3000 acre purchase included all the upper end of the Cochection Flats taking in where the village of Cochection now stands and miles of timbered lands back east on the river hills. Just prior to his death he had built a large and for those days, imposing dwelling house in what is now Cochection, which for many years was occupied by the widow, her son Moses and his son Ezra, the latter razing it in 1875 and replacing it with a more modern structure. So many of these heirs lived in what was then Cochection, the settlement on the first terrace from the river eastward along the turnpike, that the place was called Heirsville but Cochection was the name used when a post office was established in 1810 with Ebenzer Taylor as postmaster.

THE CALKIN FAMILY

When Oliver Calkin died he was survived by his wife and six children. The oldest child, a daughter, Ebenezer, born in 1776, became the wife of Ebenzer Taylor. One of her daughters married James Curtis; this made her the great-grandmother of the Curtises and Drakes and other descendants. Sarah, born in 1778 married Nathan Skinner, a man who had been educated in Conn., was a surveyor. He kept an historical record of the happenings in the Cochection Valley in regard to the early settlers. In 1715 he removed his family from Cochection to Milanville, where he had purchased of his brother-in-law, John Land a tract of 400 acres paying for the same \$10,000. Bazaleel Calkin born in 1780 married Polly Ross; Weighty born in 1783 became the wife of Charles Irvine, a man of great learning who came from Ireland to Cochection Valley and established the first school taught there. This was prior to 1800. Moses Calkin, born in 1785 married Elizabeth Mitchell; Oliver H. born in 1787 married Maria Theresa Smith of Litchfield, Conn. whose father was a teacher at that place. Moses and Oliver H. had attended the school. After their marriage they settled near Earlville, N.Y.

A WOMAN PIONEER

At the death of our former subject, Oliver Calkin, his wife found she had a heavy load to bear- an unpaid for estate and six small children, but she had not lost all the bravery shown by her as an eight year old handling a gun when the Indians besieged the fort, in 1763. To prove this, as soon as she

could become strong enough for a long journey she took her babe, then only three months old, in her arms, and went by horseback to Kingston via Port Jervis, following a path through the wilderness. Kingston was at that time the county seat and the trip approached 100 miles. At Kingston she took out letters of administration on the estate of her husband, and returned to her home in Cochection without mishap in so long a trip. Her good business ability and sound judgment in the management of the affairs of the estate that she soon had it cleared of all indebtedness.

In about 1790 Job Jones, a school teacher, came from Dutchess county N.Y., to the Cochection to engage in his profession. He met the widow Calkin, a brief courtship followed a subsequent marriage. Jones was a Justice of the Peace, a man of strict business integrity and very ably aided his wife in the management of the property. How long they lived together is not recorded but he left home one day saying he was going to visit his relatives. Strange to say he never returned nor could any trace of him be found afterward.

Being a woman of good common sense and having seen through much hardship the loss even of a second husband did not discourage her. She possessed strong religious convictions and always befriended preachers who came to preach to the settlers along the Delaware. When a church was organized in 1812 she became a member. In 1828 she divided the estate amongst her children reserving a living room only in the homestead with provision and clothing for her use.

This remarkable and good woman entered into eternal rest in the old home built by her first husband then occupied by her son Moses in May 1832 and was buried beside her husband, Oliver Calkin in the Milanville cemetery adjoining the farm upon which she was born. All of her children were church members and all but one Presbyterians.

Moses Calkin the fifth child born to Oliver Calkin and his wife Hannah Thomas, born in 1785, married Elizabeth Mitchell, December 11, 1811. To them eight children were born, viz; James Morris, in 1813, married Fidelia Harris, Abijah Mitchell in 1815, married Augusta Hedden, Ruth M. in 1818 died in 1847. Ellery Timothy, born in 1821, married Hannah Page, Hannah J. born in 1823 married John P. Roosa, Jerusha J. born in 1826 married Schuyler Duryea, Ezra Fiske born in 1829 married Mary A. Roosa in 1857. Samuel Nowell born in 1832 died in 1833.

Bazaleel Calkin, son of Oliver and brother of Moses just mentioned moved from the old homestead in Cochection to Big Island and later to a section above Callicoon thus forming another branch on the family tree. He was a grandson of the pioneer Dr. John Calkin.

Bazaleel married Polly Ross and to them were born several sons of whom were William T. and Alfred. The former fought in the Rebellion. After the war and his marriage to a Banghamton woman he migrated to Missouri where he died in 1903. He was born in Cochection on Dec. 8, 1822. Alfred was born on Cochection June 15, 1809. In 1830 he married Sarah Ross. To them were born six children three of whom died in infancy. Those attaining maturity were James R., Bazaleel and Maria S. James never married. He died in 1909. Bazaleel was born Jan. 22, 1837, and died in 1914. The latter married Ida King in 1874 and their offspring were Minnie, who married J. A. Biedekapp, of Hamden, N.Y., Jennie L., who married Harry Vandale of Callicoon, and Grover C. of Hempstead, L.I. Oliver H. brother of William T. was born in Cochection July 1, 1815 and died Feb. 27, 1892. He married Olive Bennett. Five sons and six daughters were born to them. Freeman Calkin born June 15, 1809 was also a native of Cochection a brother of Alfred and son of Bazaleel. He married Kathryn Sprague. He died in 1875 and his wife in 1906. Their children were born to them, Roscoe D. Rosetta wife of W. V. Ross, and Maria C. Bazaleel Calkin, a son of Bazaleel was born Dec. 8, 1819. He married Amanda Bennet sister of Olive who married his brother Oliver H. Calkin. Both Mr. and Mrs. Calkin died in Michigan. Ellery T. Calkin and brother Ezra F. both stayed in Cochection and died there. Both were men of integrity active in business and progressive community builders, exemplary citizens. The former left no progeny; the latter left two sons and three daughters, only one of whom is now a resident of Cochection Mrs. Etta Calkin Burr who resides in the parental home built by her father in 1875 on the same site her grandfather, Moses Calkin built when he contracted for Lot 63.

September 27, 1937

THE MITCHELL FAMILY

The summer of 1638 Jonathan Mitchell and two brothers left England for America. Jonathan Mitchell and one brother arrived. Jonathan Mitchell was graduated from Harvard in 1647. The Mitchells were not a spineless family; they fortified themselves with two powerful weapons- the rifle and the Bible the symbol of war and the symbol of peace. They were associated with the king of England, the Mayflower and the Presbyterian church. Sometime during the eighteenth century Nathan Mitchell the second, found his way to Cochection New York called at that time by the old Indian name of Cusketunk. This was what was known as Old Town and lies a little east of the Erie lines, which caused the starting of New Cochection.

Records show that Nathan Mitchell had been sent by Minisink to look after the safety of the settlers. He first built a log cabin then fell to clearing the land surrounding it. These were the days of Whigs and Tories and the relationship of the two factions was not amiable. In one sense of the word the latter might be called hypocrites and scouts were sent out to regulate them. Baga-leel Tyler a cousin of Nathan Mitchell was captain over a band of scouts.

Here are some people who from the very nature of things held the destiny of events in the hollow of their hand. Such a one was Grandmother Mitchell, "Aunt Nabby" the youngest child of Captain Tyler, born in Poughkeepsie, Oct. 1778. She was gifted with an remarkable memory and could recite past events so vividly and correctly that she won for herself a place in the history of the Mitchells. Mrs. Mitchell had a premonition that all was not well at the home of Bryant Kane and went horseback to the home. She found the entire family murdered and the struggle for life so great that one little boy was found some distance from the cabin, dead. This was in April 1777. This followed the Indian raid of 1763. The Indians were determined to wipe out the white race. The Minisink Massacre soon followed. Capt. Tyler and Moses Thomas, II, were martyrs of this battle, were second cousins of Amos T. Mitchell. Aunt Nabby Mitchell knew in her early days much trouble and sorrow. She was left an orphan at the age of five. The funeral of her mother was private and at its conclusion the body of her dear mother was placed by loving hands in the family skiff and floated down the Delaware to the Milanville cemetery. The little orphan was not permitted to go but she stood upon the bank and watched the skiff drift out of sight. At the age of nineteen she married Joseph Mitchell and to them ten children were born, nine reaching adult age. When the monument to the dead heroes of the Minisink was dedicated July 22, 1862, the most distinguished person present was Aunt Nabby Mitchell. She was called hence in September 1887, at the home of her daughter Mrs. A.B. Hubbard.

Jonathan Mitchell seems to have been of a roving nature. He died in Stamford Conn. 1645, aged 55 years. His son Jonathan, 2nd, was born in England in 1624 and was eleven years of age when he came to America. He graduated from Harvard in 1647 and was ordained to the ministry in 1650 and took the pastorate of the second Presbyterian Congregational Church in Cambridge Mass. Not long afterward he married Miss Stephens, daughter of his predecessor. He died at the age of 44 leaving no heirs.

Davis the second son of Jonathan had four sons, viz. Matthew, John, Abraham and Nathan. They all settled in Conn. Matthew, the oldest son of Davis is said to have named his son Jonathan 3rd. He had in turn two sons, Nathan was grandfather of our subject Amos T. Mitchell. To him is accorded the honor of being the forbear of all the Mitchells in what was called the Cochection Valley. He was the great-great-grandson of Jonathan Mitchell who first came to the new world.

NATHAN MITCHELL

Nathan Mitchell 2nd migrated from New Jersey coming about the middle of the 18th century. 1755, settling upon land about one mile north of Cochection Falls now owned by John Schultz. The Indian dialect for Cochection was Cashingtunk. The town of Cochection was formed in 1828, Nathan Mitchell was a Whig and when the Indian outbreaks began would have gone to a place of safety with the other settlers but his wife was a Tory and wished to stay near her relatives in Cusketunk. He nearly lost his life at the hands of the scouts at one time.

time. He had on a cap of a design worn by the Tories for protection from the Indians. He saw scouts coming and took for the woods closely pursued and just as they were about to shoot he was recognized by them and a tragedy was averted. The family of Nathan Mitchell and his wife, Elizabeth Ross, were Hannah b. Nov. 8, 1772; Sarah, Dec. 28, 1773; Nathan Feb. 14, 1775; Joseph, Dec. 7, 1777; John, Aug. 26, 1780; James, Jan. 28, 1783. (He was father of our subject, Amos T. Mitchell). Stephen March 15, 1785; Abraham Mitchell Aug. 14, 1786; Elizabeth May 11, 1788; Jane Aug. 1790; Isaac, Feb. 29, 1892; Jacob, July 15, 1795; Lyria, Feb. 8, 1797; Mary Sept. 13, 1798. Nathan Mitchell, father of these ~~thirteen~~ 14 children was born Aug. 9, 1739, but no record available states whether he was born in Connecticut Colony or in New Jersey. He died in Sept. 1822. Elizabeth Ross, mother of these fourteen children and wife of Nathan Mitchell was born Nov. 8, 1754 and died March 11, 1811.

Hannah Mitchell married David Bush of Stroudsburg; Sarah married Amos Tyler; Nathan 3rd married Anna Brown, Joseph married Abigail Tyler; James married Martha Drake; daughter of Jesse Drake, and was called Patty; Stephen married Hannah Raymond; Abraham married Mary Smith. Elizabeth married Bazaleel Tyler; Jane married Adonidah Hunt, Isaac married Ursula Smith; Jacob married Mary Skinner; Lydia married Alsup Baldwin; Mary married Douglas Davidson,

AMOS MITCHELL

Our subject, Amos T. Mitchell son of James Mitchell and Martha Drake Mitchell, was born Jan. 28, 1783, His father, James died Aug. 26, 1841. Martha Drake Mitchell wife of James and mother of our subject, Amos T. Mitchell, was born in Jan. 1787 and died December 27, 1857. (The Drakes will be more fully mentioned in the Drake genealogy.) Amos T. Mitchell was born Feb. 8, 1803 and died at his home on Four Story Hill on the old Cohecton and Great Bend turnpike, near Rileyville on May 22, 1882. He was a direct descendant of the Cohecton Valley Mitchells was always active physically, progressive and upright. His advice was frequently sought by men throughout a wide circle. He owned a large acreage of well tilled land. Since his death this has passed into the possession of Otto S. Rutledge. Mr. Mitchell had a cheerful disposition that won friends; a liberal hospitality that made his name popular. For many years he was an auctioneer. His good voice, ready wit, pleasant jokes, together with a knowledge of what merchandise was worth gave his service demand. He lived to see his three sons and five daughters all settled comfortably in homes of their own. The sons and daughters of Amos T. and Sally E. Conklin his wife were Marth M. born Oct. 22, 1832 died Oct. 22, 1833; Benjamin C. born Nov. 14, 1833, died Nov. 11, 1920. Married Pamela Brandmore, May 11, 1859, Margaret F. McCrusten Sept. 11, 1895. Was the father of two sons and one dau. Annelia H. born Nov. 7, 1835 died July 21, 1915; married Virgil Mitchell, June 19, 1858; and was the mother of a son and daughter; Eliza T. born Dec. 5, 1837, survivors, married; (?) married Joseph L. Brush May 7, 1857, is the mother of one son and three daughters Amos J. born March 31, 1840, died Oct. 25, 1921, married Fidelia Dodge, Nov. 2, 1865, was the father of eight sons and two daughters, Ransom Y. Born June 11, 1842, died in 1926; married Lydia A. Avery May 17, 1865 and to them were born three sons and two daughters. The wife survives. Lauretta V. born September 27, 1843, married Theophilus Lukens Jan. 27, 1864. Wife survives and is the mother of three sons and one daughter; Nancy U. born Feb. 28, 1847, died Oct. 28, 1902; married John O. Jackson Nov. 15, 1866. To them were born four sons and three dau. Mary Alice born April 20, 1854, survives, married Samuel H. Earl Oct. 15, 1874, To them were born one son.

Amos T. Mitchell born February 8, 1809, died May 22, 1882. His wife Sally E. Conklin born Nov. 12, 1812, died Jan. 22, 1891. This couple was married Nov. 26, 1829, and lived together sixty-three years. Their son Ransom Y. and Lydia Avery celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of their marriage before death claimed the husband in 1926.

THE CONKLIN FAMILY

Now just a brief mention of the Conklin family as it concerns the ancestry of Amos T. Mitchell genealogical tree; History shows that in the year 1825 Mrs. A.T. Mitchell's maiden name was Sally E. Conklin, relative to Benjamin Conklin (son of John and Ursula) and of Nicholas Conklin who were relatives of the first Conklins who arrived in America from England. Nicholas Conklin moved or migrated to the vicinity of Indian village in the Delaware Valley called Cushetunk in 1757 and settled with the Tylers, Calkins, Thomases and Mitchells on the Hardenberg Patent, the settlement being within the claim of the Connecticut grant. Here Nicholas Conklin built the first tub mill for grinding grain. The name can be traced back to the town of Conklin, N.Y. which was named for the family. The well known Moses Conklin was a first cousin of Mrs Amos T. Mitchell. Benjamin Conklin lived the greater part of his life in Sullivan County, N.Y. migrated to near Rileyville and was employed by the Great Bend Turnpike. Benjamin Conklin and Mary Comfort were married Oct. 9, 1806. The former was born August 27, 1785 and the latter December 7, 1790. The issue of this couple were seven sons and seven daughters, Sally E. Conklin being the third child. Benjamin Conklin died was born Sept. 9, 1819. He married Mary Worthington, daughter of James Worthington. Benjamin, the father, died Aug. 29, 1837. In 1839 all the family but Sally and Benjamin E. migrated to Rockford Ill. John Conklin came from England in 1638. He was in Salem Mass in 1640. Nicholas Conklin served in the Continental forces in the French and Indian outbreak of 1753 when the settlement of Cushetunk was attacked and was commissioned a Lieutenant.

John Conklin was elected member of Assembly from Lumberland, Sullivan Co. 1807-1808 and from Bethel Sullivan Co. 1810-1812.

From 1743 to 1798 Cochocton was in Hamakating township, from 1798 to 1809 in Lumberland, Sullivan County, and from 1809 to 1828 in Bethel. In the latter year the township of Cochocton was formed. The first town meeting in the new township was held in what is now called Old Town, at the home of Stephen Godney, March 3, 1829.

The first permanent white settlement was in 1754 and in 1760 there were thirty houses and mills to saw lumber and grind grain. To reach what is now Port Jervis they either went by paths thru the forest or by canoe on the Delaware river. Judge Moses Thomas and Amos T. Mitchell were second cousins.

CHAPTER XVI SOME SKINNER HISTORY October 4, 1927

Robert Land, who came up from the lower counties of the Delaware to the Cochocton Valley as a magistrate in 1763, was considered a tory when the Revolution was raging. To be a Tory was to be a traitor to the cause of liberty, and liberty and the accompanying prosperity was what the early settlers in our now prosperous and peaceable Delaware Valley sought. As we mentioned in a preceding chapter Capt. Tyler and his band of scouts when out on one of their raids met Land and another man named Bryant coming up the Delaware in a canoe at Big Eddy. They were arrested as Tories and taken to Port Jervis where they were put into prison, but were subsequently liberated. One account says they made an escape from the prison. At any rate Land and his family fled to Canada and never returned. However, his son John Land returned to the Cushetunk settlement and became a leading figure in civic and business activities. He married Lillie the only daughter of and sixth child of "Admiral" Daniel Skinner. Among the improvements he made was to build a large 2-story building with basement. This house was built in 1796, is in good state of preservation and is occupied by a Skinner descendant. John Land sold the house and a large acreage of land to his brother-in-law Nathan Skinner. Joseph Skinner, the son of Daniel Skinner, was the grandfather of Nathan Skinner. Nathan married Sarah Calkin and their children were Calvin, Amanda, Serena, Olive, Albro, Charles, 1st; Eli, and Ella. Calvin, the eldest of this family became the most noted of the family. Calvin or "Colonel" as he

as he was later known was born on the Ockhake place, at the head of St. Tammany Flats, near Callicoon, Nov. 15, 1799. In 1820 at the age of 21 years he married Sarah, a daughter of Jonathan Lillie, and to them were born twelve children: Calista, Volney, Martha, Weston D., Octavia, Abigail, and Milton L. Volney married Julia Bentley and to them two sons and three daughters were born. One son, Nathan survives, and two of the two daughters the Misses Florence and Elizabeth. Milton L. married Jennie Louise Guinnip, and to them two daughters were born, Sarah Edna and Lorena. Colonel Calvin Skinner was a colonel of the 70th regiment, 2nd brigade, 8th division. He had a great memory, was a deep reader and admirer of Napoleon's writings and it was on account of Napoleon's Decree at Milan, Italy that Milanville received its name, the same to be credited to Col. Skinner. In this treatise we have taken up only one member of the Nathan Skinner family, Calvin and two members of his family, Volney and Milton. The name of the others only was given. All filled their niches in both civic and business ways. He was a Justice of the Peace for many years as well as his brother Valvin and their uncle Reuben Skinner, who was the first Justice of the Peace commissioned in Wayne Co. A brother like his father Nathan, was a surveyor and ran and established many of the lines in the Delaware Valley,

BIRTH OF DR. APLEY

Dr. Luther Appley was born in Canterbury, Conn. Sept. 15, 1790 and at the age of 16 years migrated to Hancock, N.Y. One year later he became a student in the office of Dr. Lewis Allen of Deposit, New York. He remained one year then came to Damascus in 1811 at the age of 18 years. Here he studied in the office of Dr. Freeman Allen two years. For ten years he was surgeon in the 70th regiment of militia.

At a very early age the Doctor married Phoebe, oldest daughter of John Land. By this union eight children were born, viz; William Land b. 1813, died Jan 1877, married four times, Harriet Wheeler, Julia Reed, Mrs. Antonette Coots, Mindle Lakin. By the first wife two children were born, Henrietta who became the wife of Rev. Theron Brittain deceased. One son survives, Dr. Robert Brittain of Downsville, N.Y.

William Wheeler Appley, the noted physician and surgeon of the Delaware Valley, now in his 80th years. He married Mary Barlow and one daughter Miss Musette is the sole heir. Louisa; Theron, born in 1822, died in 1888. He also was a physician. He married Ann Hodge, who was born in 1828, died 1897. Their children were Julia who married Lucian Olver, their children are two sons, Amos and Theron; Wilmot who married Estelle Pinney; Otto who married Alice Irvine and Elizabeth Vail. Judson who married Mary Tyler (now residing in California) Amasa who married Anna Rhodenberg; Lillian and Chester. The family are all deceased excepting Judson. Abigail; Teresa; Luther born in 1826 died in 1919. He married Caroline Schenck and to them were born two sons and three daughters. The sons and two daughters survive; Mark born in 1829, died in 1896. He married Mary Beach. One son Wirt, died at the age of 12 years. William L. Appley was a physician and surgeon of note and was for many years employed by the Erie company as surgeon. He lost a leg in a railroad smash-up. At his death his mantle as Erie surgeon fell upon his son William W. Mark Appley was a farmer and lumberman and for a time was associated with James S. Vail in the mercantile traffic. Luther second, was the adventurer of his father's family. He followed the rush for gold in 1848 but stopped in Idaho. We have his ipsidixit that he was in the mountains of northern Idaho when the mercury froze. Mercury is used to determine gold in the rock being worked. He had a partner and they were doing fairly well with quite a sack of dust cached. They wished to take another claim and Luther was the one sent to transact the business. When he returned after several days his partner had gone and taken the sack of dust, forgetting to leave any share for Luther. He returned east as he went away, a poor man. He became a millwright and lumber jobber in Delaware Co. New York but like the rest of the family, soon spent his remaining days near the place of his birth.

DR LUTHER APLEY

In 1838 our subject, Dr. Luther Appley went to Philadelphia to practice medicine and surgery and attended lectures at Jefferson Medical College. In that city he met Mary E. Effinger whose parental ancestors were wealthy Quakers. In 1844 she became the Doctor's second wife and a year later they came to Damascus to

reside. A two daughters were born. Adelaide who died in infancy. A 2nd daughter was also named Adelaide who married Luther Peck and died Sept. 4, 1871. aged 21 years. The Doctor died at Damascus Oct. 20, 1853. His wife, Mary E. died in Honesdale Oct. 6, 1899, aged 86 years. It is said that while residing in Damascus Mrs. Appley, the 2nd had two barrels of wheat flour shipped from Philadelphia via New York and up the Hudson to Newburgh, thence across the country over the turn-pikes by the Tally-Ho to Damascus. This was before the advent of the Erie. Dr. Luther Appley was a surgeon and physician in his day. He was often called in consultation with other eminent physicians. The principal mode of travel in those days was on horse-back with the usual saddle bag equipment and the Doctor made many long and tedious trips to the bedside of a patient in this manner. As the home of the Doctor and the home of the writer's parents were only a few rods apart the two families were on gracious terms and the writer heard much inside information. Dr. Appley was a kindhearted man and much given to charity, especially among his patients, often attending where he knew he would receive no pecuniary reward. He won the respect, the honor and gratitude of the people in a wide circle where he circulated as a physician and this was shown by these people when his mortal remains were taken for burial in the Methodist Episcopal cemetery. Two of his sons as mentioned were physicians and grandsons, William W. and Otto, son of Theron followed in his footsteps as physicians.

Chapter XVII

October 7, 1927

In Chapter ten of this series we made reference to the early life of the Cochection Presbyterian church which when started was used by the Damascus people of the Methodist faith, services being held in a school house that stood near the present site of the Presbyterian church of today. The starting of Methodist worship in Damascus dates back to 1830, when a class was organized in Milanville with John Tyler as leader. Other appointments during the early history of the circuit were St. Tammany, Conklin Hill and Galilee.

SOME CHURCH HISTORY

In 1839 a union organization was formed and named the the Presbyterian and Methodist Episcopal Society of the town of Cochection, and on the 8th day of March in that year the following named men were appointed a board of trustees: Moses Calkin, George Bush, Jared Irvine, Alexander Irvine, James C. Curtis, Charles Young, Nathan Skinner, Charles Drake, and Walter S. Vail. The necessary steps were immediately started to raise money by subscription for the erection of a church edifice. On the 6th day of ~~May~~ May following Moses Calkin gave a deed of a lot for the church charging \$2. In this deed was a proviso which gave the Presbyterians the privilege of buying the rights of the Methodists at the expiration, paying them back the amount they had subscribed. Those who signed the subscription paper stated whether they were Presbyterians or Methodists. In June of this year (1839) James C. Curtis, Walter S. Vail and Charles Drake as a building committee contracted with Ira and Willis Sherwood to erect a church building for \$15.00.00 (\$1500) The edifice was completed Jan. 28, 1840 and Messrs Sherwood made a reduction of \$75 from the contract price. This edifice was dedicated on February 20, 1840, Rev. David Webster conducting the dedicatory service, preaching from Psalms 44:1-2, There was a mutual understanding by the board of trustees that each denomination should occupy the edifice alternate Sundays, also giving other evangelical denominations the privilege of using the church for worship or for abolition of slavery lectures. In 1856 the union between the Presbyterians and Methodists was dissolved the latter withdrawing.

THE EARLY METHODISTS

On August 14, 1856, members of the Methodist society met in the Damascus Union Academy and formed a new board of trustees as follows; John Jackson, Israel Tyler, Calvin Tyler, Jesse Bush, Judge Mahan Tyler, Webster Sutliff, Lancelot Drake, The organization was called "The Methodist Episcopal Church of Damascus", and a charter applied for. This was granted December 8, 1856. The lot upon which the church was built is 132 by 227 feet and was purchased from Judge Moses Tyler for \$36, and the deed for the same is dated Oct. 3, 1857. Later an additional lot was purchased for \$32. This and part of the first lot was used as a cemetery. When the church was completed and furnished the expenditure was \$1605. The sum of \$1075 had been raised by subscription and at the dedication October 27.

1857 the balance was easily raised. At the dedicatory service Rev. Jesse T. Peck, D.D. and Thomas Mack of the Presbyterian Church, Cochection, assisted the minister on the charge, Rev. E.W. Breckenridge. Rev. Peck delivered the dedicatory sermon taking for his leading words those found in Luke 3:4-6. In 1874-5 the edifice was enlarged and generally overhauled at a cost of \$5,800. The L.A.S. contributed \$800 of the amount. The church was rededicated Feb. 24, 1875. At this rededication Rev. W.P. Abbat preached from Rev. 19:6 and Rev. D.C. Olmstead made the dedication remarks. Since that time \$1,400 has been expended upon the church. In 1860 two lots 100x200 each were purchased across the road from the church from Judge Moses Tyler and George Bush, each receiving \$20. Seven years following (1867) a parsonage was built at a cost of \$800. On Oct. 26, 1897, the fiftieth anniversary of this church was celebrated. At that date the secretary reported no indebtedness and the secretary's report today shows no indebtedness.

The records show that since the erection of the edifice in 1857 the following preachers have served on the charge: E.W. Breckenridge, C. White, M. Swallow, D. Williams, S. Barnes, J.L. Race, P.D. Clark, N.B. Reynolds, Jonas Underwood, J.R. Angel, R.J. Kellogg, Moses D. Fuller, A.W. Cooper, A.W. Loomis, A.C. Olver, F.A. Doney, H.G. Harned, Arthur Osborne, W.L. Linaberry, Ira C. Estes, J.H. Boyce, L. Van Campen, J.M. Coleman, J.D. Wheeler, H.L. Renville, Arthur Jones, W.J. Seymour, O.G. Russell, John Robinson besides a few who supplied. Memorial windows have been put in the edifice.

THE UNION CHURCH

A union church was erected at what was then called Eldred, now Calkin, in 1858 at a cost of \$2500, most of which was raised by subscription. There is also a cemetery connected therewith and the first interment in it was the body of Margaret May Arthur July 8, 1858. As early as 1842 there was a Presbyterian class organized there. In 1857 Rev. Thomas Mack presided at a meeting which perfected the organization of the Presbyterian church in Calkin. At that meeting James MacArthur, Hiram Willis, John Orr, and William MacArthur were made ruling elders and the following members were enrolled: James MacArthur and his wife Agnes; Margaret MacArthur; Claudius McIntyre; and Jane, his wife; William MacArthur and Nancy, his wife; Alexander MacArthur and Ann, his wife; Hiram Willis and Eleanor, his wife; Varoline E. Pelton, John Lovelass, John Orr; James Orr and Catharine his wife; Ann Lovelass; Eliza Orr; William Lovelass. This church the Cochection pastors fill the pulpit in the Calkin church. Soon after 1836 a school house was built near this Union church and Miss Emily Stearns was the first teacher. A branch of the Christian church was also organized at Calkin and many of the people there embraced that faith. This church has no building of its own but worships in the Union church and contribute to the same and support their own pastors.

In 1840 a Methodist class was established in Galilee with Joseph Sutliff the first leader. In 1876 under the pastorate of R.J. Kellogg a church edifice was built at a cost of \$2,000. the amount being raised by subscription. It is one of the appointments on the Damascus charge. The Milanville people also built a church and it is also a branch of Damascus. There is a Union church on Conklin Hill and a church has just been built in Abrahamsville. This makes six appointments on the Damascus charge and all are attended by one man. There is also a Roman Catholic church, St. Joseph, in Rutledge Dale, but it has no regular advisor, being supplied by priests from Bangall, Rock Lake, Callicoon, or elsewhere as conditions and circumstances demands. It is opened mostly on funeral occasions and at stated times.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

The fact that Thomas Shields was an ardent Baptist led to the building of the First Baptist church in Damascus and the first church edifice in Wayne County. This was in 1800. It was deeded together with the lots on which it stood, in trust, for a regular Baptist church and society when organized. In 1820 Rev. John Smitzer visited Damascus but was not invited to preach because of his close communion with slaves. He again visited Damascus the following fall and organized a regular Baptist church, twelve persons enrolled in the class. Aug. 26, 1821, a council of recognition convened and nineteen members enrolled, seven being baptized in the Delaware river. In September of the same year

Jonathan Yerkes was chosen clerk and the succeeding November Isaac Brown was made deacon. The church was admitted to the association in 1822. In March 1826 Rev. Smitzer resigned his charge. This left the church without a regular pastor but the pulpit was at times supplied by Revs. Enoch Owen, Horace Jones, Charles H. Hubbard, and Robert C. Brisbane. In 1831 a new church edifice was built on the flat near the Delaware (the old edifice was about midway up the hill from the river) which was dedicated November 7, 1831. There was no regular services until 1835 when Rev. J. Bixby was called for the fourth pastor. He died the following year and the pulpit was vacant again. For nine months, John T. Mitchell, licentiate, served, November 1837 Joseph Currin was called as pastor. At this date the membership was eighty. Rev. Henry Curtis then took charge, 1839, and resigned in 1849, leaving the church with one hundred communicants. The pastors who served during the interim to 1856 were Revs. J. T. Mitchell, W. C. Ulyat, T. O. Judd, Andrew Hopper, J. C. Shearman. / A. M. Calkin who succeeded in 1855. In 1856 a great revival service continuing three months swelled the membership to one hundred thirty. Rev. Calkin served as pastor until November 1866. He was succeeded by T. F. Smith in the following year. Walter Gallant was called April 12, 1874. At this time the church was given a general overhauling at a cost of \$6,000 and was rededicated June 2, 1874. In 1875 Rev. Gallant resigned and was succeeded by pastors in the following order to 1883: I. N. Earl, J. A. Baskwell, F. H. Cooper, S. N. Wescott, C. H. Fitzwilliam.

A second Baptist church was organized and was mainly an offshoot of the First Baptist church. Rev. J. T. Mitchell had for several years been preaching in schoolhouses to members of the infant church. The recognition sermon was preached by Rev. H. Curtis and Rev. Mitchell was chosen as pastor. He continued as pastor until 1856 when his death occurred. He was succeeded by John H. Dodge, a licentiate, who acted as a supply until 1857 when Rev. Newell Callender was called. He soon started a series of revival services ably assisted by Rev. E. A. Harris and by the effort forty-nine persons were baptized and admitted on profession of faith.

The writer has no record to show when the first Baptist church edifice was abandoned for church purposes. But under the provision of the deed given by Thomas Shields, who was born in Chester county in 1743 and died in Philadelphia in 1820, the house and lot reverted to the original tract when abandoned for religious use. Charles Drake, one of the Manor Company, sold the building and lot to John Bradley for \$40. This price was all paid in silver. The building stands, 1927, as a dwelling house.

FIRST ACADEMY

Educational as well as spiritual matters soon took hold of the people of Damascus and a meeting to discuss the feasibility of building an academy was called to meet in the Presbyterian church, Aug. 18, 1843. The propositions made in regard to starting the new institution were not received with favor but the seed had been sown. A second meeting was called to the Baptist church. The matter was pressed forward and committee was named to select a site for the proposed building. A committee was, at a third meeting, appointed, to buy one acre from Charles Drake for \$200. It was a portion of the old Damascus Manor and was covered with tall stately white pine trees many of which were over two feet in diameter. A clearing was made near the center for the building. The third meeting selected a committee composed of Moses Thomas, Judge Moses Tyler, John T. Mitchell, Webster Sutliff, James C. Curtis, E. S. Page, and Walter S. Vail. Moses Tyler was made president and Charles Irvine secretary of a subscription committee. The stock was \$5 a share and was soon all taken. Charles Irvine drafted the charter which was granted in 1849. Joseph T. Tyler laid the foundation. Cogswell Gordon was the head carpenter and with the assistance of Joseph M. Brigham and Abraham Tyler the building was completed ready for school that same year. The first term of school was opened on the first Monday of May 1850, with Abijah M. Calkin of Cohecton as principal. So great was the attendance he was obliged to call in an assistant. In 1879 the old building was remodeled and enlarged to its present appearance. The big pines were cut down. The new building has a frontage of 72 feet and depth of 24 ft. In 1899 the building was sold to Damascus School Board for a new High School building.

Chapter XVIII missing. October 14, 1927.

Chapter XIX

October 31, 1928

THE COMING OF THE SHIELDS

The coming of Thomas Shields to Damascus gave the place new life and new business. He had bought the manor tract from the Penn Bros. of Philadelphia in 1795. He soon induced others to come and settle in Damascus. After the completion of the Newburgh and Great Bend turnpike Mr. Shields laid out a village, making plots that extended 200 feet each from the turnpike and in 1807, deeded lots for church and school. Three years following John Duffie built and started the first hotel in Damascus. Soon afterward William Tyler moved down from Callicoon and opened a hotel in the building used for many years by his son W.W. Tyler as a home and a store. In 1815 the Duffie hotel was burned and a year later Charles Drake opened his house for hotel purposes. The first Temperance hotel or tavern in Wayne county was kept by George Bush. He was the son of Simeon Bush the pioneer, and was born in 1791. To the surprise of many this tavern became one of the most popular along the Delaware for steersmen and raft hands. Mr. Bush was a prominent man and represented Wayne and Pike in the Legislature. 1843-44. He died in 1873. His father made the first assessment in 1801.

Manor CHANGES HANDS

When Thomas Shields retired from business in 1811 and returned to Philadelphia the Manor Tract passed into the possession of Moses and Hazaleel Tyler, Simeon and George Bush, and they were known as the Manor Company. The Shields' saw and grist mills were propelled by the water from Cashes; Creek and the grist mill located where the Drescher residence now stands. Charles Drake operated it for many years and when the tract upon which it stood passed into the possession of Walter S. Vail in 1841 the old mill was razed the ground leveled and up on the site Mr. Vail erected a residence. It was used by the late Philip O'Reilly, Archie Crossman and the present owners successively.

DERRICK LUKENS

Derrick Lukens was one of the men who came to the Cochection Valley with Thomas Shields in 1796. He had married Polly North and they brought one child with them. His children were John N. Titus, Derrick Jr., Betsey who married Dr. Allen and afterward R. Hankins, Polly who became the wife of Rev. Isaac Brown; Margaret, the wife of Colonel Oliver B. Brush, at one time sheriff of Wayne County; Sally the wife of Joseph L. Parsons; Hannah the wife of John L. Avery; and Nancy the wife of Tunis Wilsey. Mr. Lukens located where Marvin O. Price now owns and resides.

Col. O. B. Brush migrated from Connecticut in 1810. For two years he taught school in Damascus. He volunteered his services in the War of 1812 and served with great credit. He was elected sheriff in 1822. His three sons were Eliphalet; Oliver B. Jr., and Joseph L. The first son married Antoinette Mitchell and their children were Clarence; Herman; Almon; and Ella. The second son married Alice Samson and their children were Frank L., Charles, Commodore, Julia and Carrie. The wife and family of the third son referred to in the Mitchell notice. Rev. Isaac Brown was a son of Joel Brown and a grandson of Joseph Brown who migrated here from New Jersey in about 1790. The other children of Joel were Joseph, Enoch, Esther, Fannie, and Eleanor.

OTHER PIONEERS

David Bush came from Stroudsburg about 1795 and made his home with Jesse Drake. He was a surveyor and mill wright. He married Hannah, the eldest daughter of Nathan Mitchell of Cochection and settled on the Damascus side of the Delaware but afterward moved to Cochection where he was made the first Justice of the Peace.

William MONINGTON came with Philadelphia with Thomas Shields and settled on a tract near Derrick Lukens, now owned by Ed Burk. Aided by his son John he built the Shields mills and his other sons James and Nathan worked there. He also had a son Israel and four daughters. Two of these married in Philadelphia, and remained there. Mary (Polly) came here and married Judge Moses

Thomas. GEORGE BROWN came here about 1800. His first wife was a Lassley; his second,

Eleanor Decker. His eldest daughter married Jeremiah Lillie; Sebra, the second, married Joseph Holbert, and Mahalia married William Owens. The sons were George W. and Daniel. The latter lived for a long time at Hog Island in the Delaware and afterwards moved to Baird's Pond, now Barkley Lake. He is given the credit of having brought the first wagon in the Milanville section. He married Catharine, daughter of Albert and Polly Wood-Sherwood. The latter was a sister of Rollin Wood who lived near Tyler Hill, and was the father of Charles, Asil and Zlitha, the latter marrying Henry (Hank) Brown, who in turn was a son of John Brown, a carpenter. Daniel Brown had a large family. Two now survive, Marion F. and Rose who married Emerson Nobel. Both reside in the Calkin section. After the death of Col Brush, the widow married Stephen Mitchell, and one daughter, Margaret was the progeny. She married Warren Dimock Yerkes and survives, a past octogenarian. Their children were William B. Warren J., Ed (deceased) Eva M, wife of C.H. Decker, of Binghamton and Harold. Stephen Mitchell had previously married Hannah Raymond and had a large family. Samuel and Enos Hadden came to this section about 1812, migrating from New Jersey. Samuel married Olive Hurd and Enos married Phoebe, daughter of Silas Tyler.

Jonathan Yerkes migrated here from Bucks county about 1800 and bought a 400 acre tract from Thomas Shields. Some ten years after locating here he built both a saw mill and grist mill on the Calkin creek. His sons were Joseph, Titus, Jacob P., Nathan L., Sebastian J/, The daughters were Mary A. who married E.B. Clark, Margaret and Hannah who married Ira Sherwood.

BEGINNING AT ATCO

The nucleus of Branningville, now Atco, was Michael Branning who migrated from Newburgh and settled below Cochection Falls. He married Hannah Anderson, a granddaughter of Aaron Thomas and their progeny were nine children:- Oliver; Polly who married Stephen Young; Lydia the wife of Stephen Wright Lorette, who became the wife of Charles Lovelace; Hannah J. who married Lemuel Brown, Charity who married ---Budd, John; Moses; and Lot. Artemus, son of Moses survives; one or two more of Lot's progeny survive. Lemuel of Starucca being a son; Mrs. Matilda Smith, wife of Tobias A. Smith of Middletown, N.Y. is a surviving daughter of John Branning.

ELIJAH B.B. CLARK came from Connecticut in 1814 and remained in Damascus township about fifteen years. He married Mary Ann Yerkes, daughter of Jonathan Yerkes, 1st, and had three daughters, and one son (Sidney) when the family moved to Michigan in 1829.

RUTLEDGE FAMILY

ALEXANDER RUTLEDGE, 1st, migrated to Damascus about 1812. His children were Annn, who became the wife of James Conington, 1st; Alexander 2nd, Edward 1st, Christopher, John and William. Their descendants many and widespread. The Rutledgeville post office was named in their honor and their children to the third and fourth generation are clustered around it.

JAMES BOYD came from near Philadelphia about 1808 and settled on Damascus Manor near Thomas Young. He volunteered in the same company with Sheriff Brush (war of 1812) and served until 1814 when he returned to Damascus. One of the sons Thomas V. Boyd, located near what was then called Eldred and bought the Tymerson Mills. Until his death he was a prominent and active lumberman and served Wayne in the assembly two terms. In 1849 he married Elizabeth Jane, dau of Isaac and Ursula Smith-Mitchell and a family of twelve children, five of whom survive, Mr. Boyd soon associated with his brother-in-law Joseph Wood. John Leonard in 1836 bought a large tract of land where Fallsdale now is. He built a sawmill on the north branch of Calkin creek and operated it for ten years. Eli Beach bought out Leonard and in 1850 it passed into the hands of Wood & Boyd. In 1859 Isaac Lovelass bought a half interest in the business and in 1880 became sole owner. Soon after Leonard located Jabez Stearns came to that locality. Miss Emily H., one of his daughters, became a Wayne county teacher of much note. The writer attended her school. Stearns entered into the lumber business the sawmill being located but a short way from the Lovelass mill. The son David soon took over the business. The Stearns property or the part upon which the ~~houses~~ buildings were is now the property and home of Lewis Lybolt, a Civil War veteran. STEPHEN WOOD, father of Joseph Wood, mentioned, located in what is now

STEPHEN WOOD father of the Joseph Wood mentioned, located in what is now Boyds Mills in 1837.

OTHER SETTLERS

William Hartwell located in the same locality in 1820 and was active in all good work for building a community. His only daughter, Jane married John L. (Jack) Burcher and occupied the Hartwell farm after Mr. Hartwell married a second time and moved to Honesdale. This farm which at one time was considered a model farm has very recently been purchased by Walter C. Blum, who married Avanne Burcher, great granddaughter of John K. Burcher who married Maximilla Land daughter of John Land one of the Cushetunk settlers. John Burcher so favorably known in this section of Wayne county, was born at Westminster, London, England September 27, 1803. His grandfather for whom he was named was a carpenter as was also his son William, father of John 2d. William migrated to this country in 1807 and as an agent bought one thousand acres of land in Mount Pleasant twp. This proved a poor venture for Mr. Burcher as his principal died and he (Burcher) was obliged to take the land. He cleared 50 acres and then released. He bought other property in the same township, and the following year brought his family from England. He located in Mount Pleasant township and remained there till 1832. His wife was Elizabeth Passmore. Their family were Mary who married Ogden Cramer; Elizabeth married Joseph Yerkes; Sarah married Warren Dimmick; Helen who married Titus Yerkes, and soon migrated with him to Michigan; John referred to, and Samuel who died the same year as his father, 1839. When the family migrated to Damascus the family occupied their time carving a farm out of the wilderness. John Burcher's family were- William P. who died in 1873; Lydia M. married Isaac Tibbets; died in 1878; Samuel; Phoebe T., married Jonathan Yerkes 2nd; Caroline. Walter V.; John L. (Jack) Joseph J. married twice and is residing in Pleasant Mount; James F. died in 1884; Titus C. died in 1867; Avis died in 1877; John Burcher like so many others in his neighborhood, knew what it was to go to the grist mill. When only a boy he was obliged to shoulder a bushel of rye or corn and make his way along a blazed trail four or five miles to get the grain ground. Roads were then known in some places, with a car as a vehicle and oxen as drawing power.

The family of Joseph Yerkes and Elizabeth Burcher were William, Jonathan, Jared Warren and Elizabeth who married Orrin A. Bentley. Just how many children were in the Bentley family the writer does not know, but Volney Skinner married a daughter Julia, and Thomas Ellison married another, Catharine, and a son Clrk. Orrin A. Bentley was laid at rest in ~~Channah~~ Gainesville, Ga. and his wife was laid at rest in the old Methodist Episcopal cemetery in Honesdale. Catharine and Philip Bentley were buried in the same cemetery. Philip was said to be the first child born in Honesdale and was named Philip Hone Bentley.

CHAPTER XX

October 25, 1927

The hamlet of Boyds Mills owes its existence to the early starting of sawmills in that locality. Hiram Willis and Truman Tymerson built a saw mill there in 1843. In 1867 this mill was bought by Joseph Wood and Thomas Y. Boyd. The locality was then known as Eldred but the people around Damascus spoke of it as "out south" However in 1837 a postoffice was established and the name of Eldred was used. James Smith who served until 1846. His successors in rotation, were William Hartwell, Willis Sherwood, Thomas Y. Boyd, John Comfort, H. J. Lounsberry and William J. Tegeler. Mr. Boyd was reappointed. In 1874 he was succeeded by John Orr who served until 1882. During Orr's postmastership the name was changed from Eldred to Boyds Mills. Mr. Boyd was again made postmaster in 1882 and was succeeded by C. T. Tegeler in 1885. Mr. Tegeler moved the office to his store. About that time the name was changed to Astoria and later to Calkin. Two offices were established, Mr. Boyd getting one and restoring the name Boyds Mills which is the only office there today.

JAMES SMITH located in Eldred in 1821. He was the father of Loring Parsons Smith and grandfather of Loring Augustus Smith who resides in that locality today. He came from New York state and married Eunice, daughter of Loring Parsons. He had but two sons, E. H. Smith who resides in Bethany, and the one already referred to, L. A. Smith resides on the old homestead.

WILLIAM H. TEGELER located in Eldred about 1850 coming from Philadelphia. The Orrs, relatives of the Tegellers, had preceded them from Philadelphia. The Orrs sent instructions to the Tegellers to inquire for the home of John Bradley when they reached Damascus- the route was from Philadelphia via of Newburgh thence by the Four Horse Tally-Ho over the turnpike. Mr. Bradley did not keep a public house but was always ready to do the charity act even to self sacrifice. Mr. and Mrs. Tegeler and sons Christopher Tennant and Frederick William remained in the Bradley home until Mr. Tegeler went to the section now called East Calkin and found the Orr home which was a log cabin near to where the home of John L. Orr now stands. James Orr, father of John L. was dispatched to Damascus with a cart and yoke of oxen to get and convey the Tegeler family through the forest to the Orr home. The last time the writer was in that section the log walls of the old "Castle" stood slowly rotting away at the bottom.

A postoffice was established in Galilee in 1848 with Philip P. BRIGHAM as post master. He held the office to 1869 when Joseph Sutliff succeeded, holding the office two years when the office was abolished. In 1884 the office was re established and David W. Berry made post-master. Webster Sutliff seems to have been the first to start industrial improvements in Galilee by building a saw mill in 1825. Joseph Sutliff located there in 1835 and David, a brother, some five years prior to this. Philip Brigham located there in 1835. Hiram Brigham brother of Philip was an early settler and was father of George and several other children who grew up and migrated west. Calvin Marks was also an early settler there. His father had settled at Conklin Hill prior to this. A number of these early settlers sent sons to the war of the Rebellion and but few returned. William Keesler located between what was now Galilee and Conklin Hill and married a daughter of Cornelius Baults. He was the pioneer Keesler of that section. Prior to 1886 David W. Berry had each started a notion store and in 1886 George C. Abraham started a general store in the Berry stand and soon surprised everybody by the patronage he drew from the first. Today there are two general stores of merchandise. At one time there were a cooperative creamery and an individual cheese factory owned by George Abraham. Today the latter is the dwelling house and garage of C. E. Schweighofer and the former has been remodeled into a hall for Unity Grange. George ABRAHAM was born in Montgomery county, December 3, 1827. He completed a good academic education in Norristown and in 1850 came to Damascus, locating in the northern part of the township in a dense wilderness and soon became the live wire as a lumberman of that section. He purchased 700 acres of land from Jacob Wagner and built one of the first steam sawmills in this section of Wayne. His mill was twice burned, in 1883 he built the one that completed his life work. In 1870 Mr. Abraham fell against the big saw and lost his right arm at the shoulder. In 1853 he married Mary C. daughter of Jacob Wagner and ten children were their progeny, five of whom survive.

NATHAN BAKER came from Orange Co. N.Y. in 1832 and located near Rock Run. He married Phoebe Mitchell daughter of Stephen Mitchell, and Anna Brown, to the knowledge of the writer he had three sons and one daughter. They located in the Abrahamsville section but are now all deceased but several descendants are there yet. All made prosperous citizens and helped to blaze the way for others.

NICHOLAS CONKLIN the pioneer, came to Cushetunk Valley about 1760 with three sons, John, Elias and William, and located in Cocheton between where the station now stands. William married Hester Brink, and located up the river nearly opposite Big Island. One of his sons was named Nicholas. He married Kasier Bush. He settled on the lower end of St. Tammany Flats. To them was born a large family one son of whom was named Horatio Nelson in honor of Lord Nelson. Horatio was born in 1817. He married Elmira Turner and located on Conklin Hill. Some of the sons and daughters survive, one being Nelson J., a Civil War Veteran.

ARCHIBALD MC COLLEEN settled early along the turnpike near Four Story Hill. He was the father of a son, Neal, and one daughter who married William MacAvoy of Pleasant Mount. Neal married Catherine Tully and located near Galilee where he became a large land owner. He was the father of four sons and six daughters, two of whom survive, Nancy in Illinois, and James on the old homestead.

THOMAS JACKSON was born in England, He emigrated to America at a date not available but prior to the Revolution, settling in Conn. He was a watch and clock

maker of great fame One of his make of clocks is still in possession of the Damascus Jacksons. He died in 1806. His wife was Mary Knight. One son Thomas, was born to them in 1774, John Jackson, to whom this sketch is dedicated, was born in Griswold, Conn. in 1812. Oct 1, 1833 he married Abbie, daughter of Chester Appley, of Canterbury, Conn. In 1835 he migrated to Hankins, N.Y. In 1845 he bought 100 acres of land in Damascus of David Nathan, the same being where the Country Club is now located. The children of our subject and his wife, Abbie Appley, were, Charles R, a doctor; Chester T. who was a member of Company I, Pa. volunteers under Capt. John Ross, died in service; John Orson; Haniel Clark; William Leveret Sarah Lavan; who married Ed. B. Gager and still survives a past nonagenarian John Jackson, the subject of our sketch was a grandson of the first named Thomas Jackson, The subjects living are- Haniel C., of Tyler Hill married Josephine Anderson, of Gallicocon, had two sons and two daughters. The oldest son Dr. Roy Ellworth Jackson V.S. is in Federal service, Birmingham, Ala. The other son, Henry G. resides on the homestead farm, Tyler Hill. William L. married Lydia Canfield of Galilee and three children were the issue: Thomas, of Damascus and Coe of Binghamton, Sarah L. resides in Dyberry. No issue: husband deceased. Reference was made to John O. and wife Nancy U. Mitchell in the Mitchell chapter. Two sons survive John C. of Orlando Florida, and Benjamin M. of Bethany.

WHEELER H MITCHELL married Mary E. Avery. He died in 1867. Was one of the first principals of the Damascus Union Academy. The progeny were two sons, J. Vestor, now of Ottoway, Kansas; Miss Sadie of Redlands, California, Judson W. Redlands, Calif. Wheeler Harvey Mitchell and Mary E. Avery were married Oct. 8, 1857 and their home was where now resides A.D. Bushnell- West Damascus.

The West Damascus postoffice was established in 1869 with George Welsh as postmaster. He was succeeded by Mrs. Mary E. Mitchell and she was followed by Mrs. Fidelity Mitchell who continued to serve until a few years ago when the office was abolished. All the people along the route are served at their door by a star route carrier from Rutledge Dale to Damascus, the present carrier being Francis Keesler.

CHAPTER XXI

November 11, 1927

The Tylers at one time so prominent in civic and industrial life in the Damascus section of the Delaware Valley, and in the forming of the early history of Wayne county, has now dwindled to a noticeable minority. Starting with Bazaleel who is quoted as being the father of fourteen children to reach maturity. The mother of these children was Sarah Calkin, sister of Doctor John Calkin who located at Cocheton Falls on the New York State side at the same time Tyler located in Damascus, 1754. His son Bazaleel, 2nd broke the Tyler record with a minority of six children, John, Moses, Oliver, Elan, Phoebe and Abigail. John married Jane Fanoy and had seven children- Bazaleel 3rd, Moses, Benjamin, Oliver 2d, Sally (wife of James Ross); Lidia (wife of Moses son of Oliver Calkin) of Big Eddy; Moses the 3rd son of Bazaleel 2d, married Sarah dau. of James Ross, Sr. Elan the fourth son was killed young but had become the father of two daughters, Phoebe the oldest married Joseph Mithcell, Judge Moses Tyler born in Damascus in 1788 was a son of John Tyler referred to above- and married Sally, dau of James Ross Jr. William Tyler son of one of the Bazaleel Tylers married Mary Vail, dau of Capt. Nathaniel Vail of Orange N.Y, who won his title in the Rev. One of William Tyler's sons was Benjamin, who married Martha Thomas, His sons were Calvin, Ulysses, Franklin, Isaac, Joseph, Abraham, A daughter Calthe m. George Young, son of David Young and lived near Cocheton Falls on the New York side. The oldest Tyler now living in Damascus is Asleep Vance son of Ulysses and Calisto Edwards. He can see his 80th milepost just ahead, He married Christine Lovelass and has two sons, Ernest and Watson L. The latter recently married Irma, daughter of Thomas Treverton an wife of Beachlake. His start of a family is a son Wat Jr. in a line to maintain the Tyler name (Alsop?)

Among the first settlers to locate in the Cushetunk Valley and who have since sent descendants far and wide were David Young and wife who emigrated from Scotland. Mrs. Young claimed to be a legal daughter of King George III. For a time they stayed in New Jersey before coming up the Delaware. They located on the Griswold tract near the river and opposite the lower end of Big island, the New York side of the river in 1757. Mr Young had studied law but when he took up a residence in the wilds of the Delaware Valley and built a log cabin

he found that he must "root hog or die" and he fell to clearing land. He was twice driven from his home by hostile Indians. He saw the red men hold their pow wows and green corn dances on the lower end of the Island where the square (squaw?) raised corn and other food stuffs in its alluvial soil. Here was also where they disposed of their dead. It certainly took a stout heart and iron nerve to leave civilization and settle in so wild a country. This couple had five children reach maturity: David 2d, Thomas, John, George, and Isabelle. David born April 18, 1781 married Hester Little, who was born August 6, 1786; and the couple were married by magistrate Moses Thomas. They resided on the Cochection side of the Delaware near the head of Cochection Falls. Later he took up land on the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware and built saw mills on the South Branch of Calkin Creek. One account says he built the Milanville grist mill; another account says he bought it of Jonathan Yerkes. However Mr. Young was killed by a land slide on November 7, 1837 while working at the dam of his sawmill. His wife died Nov. 26, 1836. Their children were George Charles, Thomas, Moses T. and Isabelle. The first son George was born in Cochection Jan. 11, 1809 and died at Milanville Oct. 23, 1855. Dec. 17, 1835 he married Caltha, dau. of Benjamin Tyler of Damascus, and continued his father's business in the mills at Milanville.

m THE YOUNG FAMILY

Charles Young was born in Cochection, April 22, 1811. He married Matilda Skinner at Damascus, June 12, 1833. He lived most of his life in Port Jervis and died there August 15, 1852. His widow married Nathan Yerkes, son of the pioneer, Jonathan Yerkes, and patriarch of all the Yerkes of this section.

Thomas Young born Dec. 14, 1817 died in Berlin Township, April 18, 1866. He married Mary Harparee at Damascus, October 26, 1837 (mentioned later).

Moses T. Young born August 4, 1821, died August 23, 1839. He married Eliza Calkin at Shohola, Pa. Dec. 5, 1844. Their children were Aranza Gale, born September 11, 1845, resides now in New London, Conn. Helen Lovisa born March 20, 1850 resides in Damascus; Charles Jazette born June 19, 1854 died in Alabama, March 28, 1911; Emma Eliza b. June 5, 1860 married Hood Tyler and Minor Keyes. She resides in Damascus with 2nd husband. Earl Wheeler, born April 12, 1863, died Dec. 24, 1866.

Isabelle married Charles Tyler, Their children were David, Aurilla, Thomas, and John Y. The latter was referred to earlier in this series. Aurilla spent her last days in the home of Moses T. Young and died there July 28, 1867.

The children of Thomas Young and Abigail Thomas, were Truman, Sarah, Aaron, David 3rd, Elias, John and Virgil, Thomas Young died in Canada, Truman was born in Cochection in 1812 and died there in 1830. He married Lydia Tyler dau. of Bazaleel Tyler in 1833. Lydia Tyler was born in 1817 and died in 1832. This couple had but one child, Abigail Thomas, born in 1839 and still survives. In 1857 she married Sehh Burr (born 1829, died 1904) and to them were born Timothy L. (1860) married Etta Calkin; Truman Y. (1861) married Emma Graze. Freddie born and died in 1865. Amelia (1871) Mary Belle (1873) Hattie (1875) The sons both reside in Cochection.

Sarah daughter of Thomas married a Skinner (name not known to the writer) Aaron married Dausilla Drake and one of their sons was Homer. He married Eliza Wilmot and their children were Aaron W. (deceased) Grace, who married Dr. Poor, of Otisville, N.Y. and Junius who married and resided on the old Aaron Young homestead.

David Young married Sarah Page, Elias and Sarah died in Great Bend, Mary Bell died in Michigan and John Young married a granddaughter of the pioneer John Lassley and after living on the Young farm near Cochection Falls he moved to Smith Hill in Berlin township. He had a son John, daughter Charlotte, Minerva and another daughter who married an Amerman.

George Young Sr. married Hannah Wheeler and took up a residence at Tyler Hill. The home stood behind where the late W.A. Gregg built his bungalow home, but the Young home has long since been razed. Their children were William Ransom and Thomas. William's first wife was Amanda, dau. of Eliot Tyler and his 2nd wife Tuth Gardner of Callicoon. No issue. Ransom married Amanda Thomas and went west; Thomas married Adeline Avery and went west also. The latter couple are both deceased, but one son Frank Thomas Young resides in LeRoy, Minn.

This George Young is brother of the Thomas Young who married a daughter of Bazaleel Tyler the pioneer, who passed his last days in Canada. Thomas Young, son of David 2nd mentioned above, who married Mary Harpree and resided for some time at Tyler Hill. Their children were Halsey, George, Calth Isabelle and Judson. The family later moved to Hanks N.Y. Isabelle married Henry Hartman of Smith Hill and went to reside in Carbondale where both died. They had but one daughter who reached adult age. George married Eliza Rodenburg and had one daughter Lille, who married Fred Swab and resides in Galilee. Their issue are three sons Clarence E of Galilee, Nevil of Honesdale and Glenn in the parental home. George Young and wife also reside in Galilee.

LUMBERING MAIN BUSINESS

A century ago and later, lumbering was a chief activity all along the Delaware river. Converting the logs into the sawed product was a slow process with the old up and down sawmills. The first introduction of a circular saw for their purpose was by Commodore C. Murray of Narrowsburg and the location was at what was called Ketchall and which name still holds. This introduction gave a wonderful impetus to the lumber industry. John J. Merrill of Beach Lake was put into the mill as chief operator. This was in about 1850 and twenty years subsequently there were more than fifty circular mills in Wayne Co. some of them using steam power. Soon after 1850 George Abraham built a circular mill with steam power where is now known as Abrahamsville. Lumbering and tanning followed each other back into forest interiors.

EARLY HONESDALE NEWSPAPER

The Semi-Weekly Democrat was started in Honesdale by Leroy Bonesteel in 1869 the first number appearing under date of May 28. It was a four page paper 13x20 inches. It was thus printed twice a week until October 22, 1869 when it was changed to a weekly and the width doubled making a paper 26x20. December 20, 1870, Mr Bonesteel sold his interest to A.P. Childs and returned to Damascus to take charge of his father's gristmill and other business, the father having died in 1869.

AN EARLY SETTLER

The home of Bryant Kane, one of the early settlers in the Cushetunk Valley was on the east bank (Cochecton) of the Delaware near the Cochecton Falls. The same location was later occupied by Charles Young. North of the Kane home was that of Nicholas Conklin, and Robert Land lived across the river. Land and Kane were both Tories. This incident happened sometime after 1777. The Mohawks were on the path. The Kane family were all murdered in a night. In those perilous times a man named Cooley came up the Delaware and asked permission to stay in the Cushetunk settlement. As the story he told was not satisfactory to the people he was not welcomed and he wandered on up the river until he came to a deserted cabin, where is now called Little Equinunk. He spent some time there but at length discovered by Capt Tyler and his Land of Scouts. (The Indians called Capt Tyler, Captain Mush). They dragged the man from his cabin home and after a brief parley among themselves decided that he must die. The scouts were divided into a majority and a minority in the matter of killing the man in cold blood but the majority ruled. He pleaded pitiously for his life but even as he knelt a bullet ended his life. Hence the name Cooley Woods.

In the early days of the Cushetunk settlement there was no way of reaching it but up the Delaware River as an avenue and if any chattels were brought that meant many weary days and tired muscles pushing a canoe against the swiftly flowing waters of that torturous stream. But the sturdy men striving for a goal took no thought of it. And did they not pass through more trying times than that blazing the way for us?

CHAPTER XXII

November 22, 1927

In Chapter XIX of this series where mention is made of the pioneer, William Monington, and family, an omission was either the writer or the typist leaves the reader in doubt. Two daughters came to the Delaware Valley to reside, and two remained in Philadelphia. The two coming here with their parents were Mary who became the wife of William Tyler who was the progenitor of the Tyler Hill Tylers, Rebecca the other daughter who came here became the wife of Moses Thomas.

WILLIAM MONINGTON cleared the flats where C.W. Terril has just erected a steada mill. Since the son James Monington (father of the late Henry Curtis Monington who related the incident to us) cracked and harvested grain on this lot mentioned it has been cut over twice for the white pine that grew upon it. Today it is covered with another growth some of the trees quite sizeable.

DAVID WILDER, a native of New Hampshire, married Sophia, daughter of Paul Tyler, of Damascus and located in Bethany in 1803. (3) They had one daughter, Charity B. who married Hon. James Manning; Hester and David. Mr. Wilder was a hotel keeper in Bethany as early as 1811. He was also a successful farmer.

THE OLDEST HOUSE

THE oldest house now standing in the village of Galilee is said to be the one across the street from the store of Hull Bros. and owned by them now. It is still in its originality and was built about seventy-five years ago for Nathan Sutliff, son of "Uncle Joe" Sutliff one of the pioneers of that locality. The oldest house standing in its originality in Tyler Hill, is the house on the Fortnam farm near the Gregg bungalow. It is said to have been by the Ross family who sold it to the Fortnams in 1847. There are several others in the village that were built as early but they have been modeled over. Besides the Tylers, names of Tyler Hill families in the early part of the nineteenth century were Young, VanKirk, Depuy, Scantlebury, Smith, Mitchell, Page, VanGelder, Hedden, Coward, Theobald, William Tyler who married Mary daughter of William Monington and settled at Tyler Hill had four sons, two of whom, Israel and Truman, located at Tyler Hill, a son Raymond settled in Manchester, near the Delaware river. Alfred, another son, located on an island in the Delaware river above Callicoon, Israel and Alfred both died the same day in 1873.

SOME OLD DEEDS

An old indenture handed to us showed that on November 16, 1827 Nathan Mitchell and wife sold to Stephen Mitchell and wife a parcel of land in Tyler Hill, containing 25 acres for \$1,500. It being the same land conveyed to Elihu S. Page by John Little and his wife, Martha by deed dated June 14, 1823 and recorded in Bethany Deed Book No. 6, and being the same place of land released and quit claimed by David Hunter to said Elihu Page by an Indenture dated April 27, 1827 and recorded in Bethany in 1829 being the same land conveyed by Elihu S. Page and wife to Nathan Mitchell above mentioned by deed being date of Nov. 28, 1835. The indenture was signed by Nathan Mitchell and his wife Emilenda Mitchell. The indenture was acknowledged before Judge Moses Thomas, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Wayne Co. and was Sealed and Delivered before Judge Moses Thomas and Hannah Young, witnesses. The indenture was entered February 3, 1849. Tax .50 fees \$1.28 - \$1.78 was rec'd from the hand of Israel Tyler, J. R. Keen, Recorder.

This same parcel of land was later the property of Tobias VanGelder and still later became the property of William Pethick, the son Clarence M. Pethick succeeding to the ownership. He later sold it and the other parcels that formed the William Pethick estate to Howard A. Welsh. It was from the above said parcel of 25 acres that a committee of Tyler Hill citizens bought a plot 20x200 feet on the south west corner abutting upon the Newburgh turnpike, now the county road intending to build thereon a Baptist church. Ground was broken, a basement partly evacuated, stones and lumber hauled to the spot. The scene stands today as it did when work was called to a halt with the exception that the lumber in the stages of decay. Today there is but one Tyler in the village of Tyler Hill and he is George A., a son of John Young Tyler and Mary A. Mitchell, the one lining back to the pioneer David Young and the other a lineal descendant of Nathan Mitchell. The name is on the way to extinction.

The following bit of ancient history was sent us by a descendant of Nathan and Hannah rightly belongs in these series altho the outline of the coat of arms upon the card can not be reproduced by us, The card is headed:

"Coat of Arms of the O'Brennans."

Brennans, Brannans, and Brannings, or more correctly, O'Brennans descended from Branan, a son of Caerbhal, King of Ossory, who died A.D. 887; were lords of the ancient territory of Ui Duach in Kilkenny. They recovered their lands after the Norman invasion and held them by "the strong right arm" till they were dispossessed by

by Christopher Wandesford, A.D. 1637. Then the clan became scattered, and William Inally(sic) came and settled on the Hudson river in Almerica. Many of the family still hold land in Kilkenny. The present head of the clan is the O'Brennan, Eden Hall, Kilkenny, Ireland. J.H. Brown-Scheuycaille. Allada M. Tearse.

As previously referred to in these sketches, William, then called Branning, came from the Hudson and settled along the Delaware above Narrowsburg. Jacob Branning, grandfather of Joseph C. Branning, married Miss Ellen Lassley. Moses D. Branning and wife, Ellen Carpenter, were the parents of Joseph C., Sarah Jane, Ophelia, William F. and Susan. Joseph C. married Mary Hornbeck, of Equinunk; Sarah J. married James K. Hornbeck; Ophelia married Wells Lester; William F. married Sophia Brinkman and Susan became the wife of Jacob Hillier. Joseph C. Branning and Mary Hornbeck had five children: Gertrude who became the wife of Edward Barnes, Caroline, Fred. Roy, Mabel, Lulu, Edna.

THE HOLBERTS

The Holberts, a wide-spreading family along the Delaware and adjacent section claim as their progenitor in America, William Holbert who was born in Holland in 1751 and married Mary Showers one year his junior. They came to America in 1773 and settled at Indian Orchard. Two years subsequently the Indians raided the settlement, burned the buildings and took the Holbert and Zother families to what is now known as Hancock on the Delaware River. They placed the women and children in a canoe and started them down the river. They finally landed at Minisink. The men succeeded in getting away from their captors at where is now called Oneida, and finally reached Minisink. It is said that following the Declaration of Independence the Holberts bought the Lack-waxen Flats of a widow Jones for sixpence an acre. William Holbert furnished the lumber for the Trenton bridge in 1803. He died in 1815, the wife 17 years later. They left two sons, Benjamin and Joseph. The former was born at Lack-waxen in 1782. He married Mary Rider and to them were born the following children: Elizabeth, William, Joseph G. Catharine, Martha, Stephen Decatur, Benjamin F., Mary, Fred. H., Albert J.

Joseph G. Holbert born in 1803 at Westcolang, married Sabra Brown, born in 1803, a daughter of George and Elenor Decker-Brown, and aunt of Marion F. Brown now a resident of East Calkin. The children of J.G. and Sabra Brown-Holbert were Elizabeth, Josephine, who married Cornelius B. Lassley and William who twice married- Emma Poole and later died in 1888, and their two offspring both died young. In 1894 our subject married Mrs. Elizabeth Hornbeck.

Frederick Holbert married Elizabeth Pole and they resided at Westcolang. Their children were Albert, Emma, F.J. Mary, Calvin, Philena, Elizabeth, Rodman, married Ebenezer Tyler, Louis N. married Dollie Eldred, and Arthur D.B.F. born in 1851 married Elizabeth Furman. They had but two children- Candace and Otis R. who married Clara Buchanan.

THE LASSLEYS

John Lassley was the forbear of all the Lassleys in the Cushetunk Valley. He came to this valley at the same time the Thomas, Tyler, Ross and Young families came- 1754. He took up a tract of land adjacent to that of Aaron Thomas on the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware river immediately below the Cohecton Falls. He came as a single man but soon married Sarah Tyler. They had three children, viz; Cornelius, who married Lana Decker, Sarah who became the wife of Parks Baird, and Elizabeth who married John Salisbury who settled in Cayuga Co. New York.

When the Revolutionary War broke out our subject, in company with his relatives, the Tylers, enlisted in a New York state company and served under the Captaincy of Peter Mills. (sic) Elizabeth Hornbeck; Benjamin D. married Miranda Haggerty; George, who first married Phoebe Adeline Brown and as a 2nd wife Ella Hansen; John married Catharine Lassley; Franklin; Thomas Jefferson who married Mary Stewart Mary, Franklin was born in 1838 and in 1859 married Clara Barnes. The and Baldwin's regiment. (Beginning with sic to here appears to belong in the Hornbeck family) Mr. Lassley was honorably discharged at the close of the war. His name is to be found on the monument recently erected in Honesdale in memory of the soldiers of the Revolution.

He was a small man in stature, but of wonderful activity and endurance and

was spoken of as being one of the best rifle marksmen among the pioneers in the Delaware Valley. When he returned to his Damascus home after the close of the war he engaged in farming and lumbering and lived and honored and respected and neighbor to the ripe old age of one hundred years at the home of his daughter Mrs. Elizabeth Salisbury in Cayuga County, N.Y.

GRAND OLD PIONEER

A touching incident in the life of this grand old soldier has often been rehearsed by his grandson, Cornelius, and handed down to the younger generations as a lesson of patriotism. As this grandson, a mere boy, approached the home of this venerable relative on one of his many morning calls he was both surprised and frightened to see crepe floating from the door latch but he continued onward to the humble home. The old man met him at the door and with tears streaming down his furrowed cheeks told the boy George Washington was dead and he had hung up the emblem of mourning upon his door because he loved and honored him as though he were my father, and he was the Father of His Country.

DROWNED AT NARROWSBURG

His only son Cornelius was drowned in the Delaware river at Narrowsburg while trying to save a raft during flood. He left four children; Cornelius, John, Catherine and Eleanor. John married Mary Branning and they had five children; Cornelius, 3rd, John, James, Esther and Lana. (Should this not be Cornelius instead of John?) John married Josephine daughter of Joseph G. Holbert and his wife Sabra Brown, of Lackawaxen and bought a farm upon the Narrowsburg turnpike, in Damascus township in 1850 where he and his brother John farmed and lumbered. John married Elizabeth of Thompson and Nora Sluman-Woodley and had several children, one of whom, Mrs. Virgil Whitaker, of Hancock survives. John was killed at Narrowsburg by an Erie train in 1887.

James settled at Swamp Mills in New York state and had three children; George, Warren and Mrs. Marcus Elmore, of Dunmore, Pa.

Esther married Warren W. Tyler, of Damascus, and one daughter, Louise V. was the issue. Her marriage was referred to in an early chapter. Lana married James (Jabe) Tyler son of Judge Moses and Sarah Ross-Tyler, and their children were Elvora and Carrie. The former survives and is the wife of Birtwell E. Bush of Greene, N.Y. Chenango Co. Their daughter is Mrs. Elmer Tyler of Conklin Hill, and they have several children. Carrie became the 2nd wife of Thomas Ellison deceased, resides in Damascus.

When Cornelius died in 1907 he was survived by eight children; Aurilla, Lana, Marcus, Sabra, George, Josephine, Mattie, and Cornelius, Jr., who resides on the homestead bought in 1850.

Aurilla married Smith; Lana married B.C. Ross (deceased). Their children were Porter, of Newark, N.J., Chester of Wilmington, Del., is married and has several children; Laura married Clinton Abraham son of George C. and Grace Kellan-Abraham and had one daughter Betty. The husband is deceased. Marcus married and had a family, but more than this is unknown to the writer. Miss resides in Binghamton; Sabra married Joseph Wood and reside in Binghamton; (Mattie deceased); George B. married Mary Alfart and their children are Myrtle wife of L.A. Hocker, of Milanville and have three children-Inez, Willard and George. and Joseph G. who married Pauline M. Seipp and their progeny Lucille and Alfred. The father and son under the firm name of G.B. Lassley & Son own and conduct a dairy farm of registered Holstein cattle near Milanville. The farm was a lumber tract formerly owned by John D. Branning but was subsequently bought by the Ross Bros of Milanville, and after it was denuded of its giant hemlock became the individual property of B.C. Ross who began to clear and cultivate it but later sold it to his brother-in-law G.B. Lassley and moved (to) another farm near Silver Lake where he died.

CHAPTER XXIII

December 13, 1927

If you have followed these sketches through carefully you could not fail to notice how closely and peculiarly the early settlers in the Cushetunk Valley were allied in a closely woven net-work of marriage and so much so that it needs care in designating the families to whom certain men and women belong. One must be very familiar with the existing conditions to do so.

A MISSING FAMILY LINK

A missing link in the family of John Young who located near Smith Hill, has been picked up and will be welded into the chain here.

The daughter who married an Amersman was Elizabeth. She married Edward Amersman of Monroe Co. After residing for a time in Palmyra township, the couple finally settled in Hawley in 1844. At that time they had a son, George, seven years of age. This son grew up in Hawley and enlisted in the Civil War. In the battle of the Wilderness he was wounded in one knee which necessitated amputation of the leg at that point. In 1871 he married Sarah Snyder and their descendants are to be found in Hawley today.

The Abigail Thomas who became the wife of Thomas, son of David Young, the pioneer was a daughter of Joseph Thomas, a grandson of Moses Thomas. Aaron Young, son of Thomas, married Drusilla Drake October 3, 1833. She was born April 5, 1817. Aaron Young was born May 20, 1810. Drusilla Drake was a daughter of Jesse Drake, Jr. son of Capt. Jesse Drake and her mother was Abigail, daughter of John Tyler. Aaron Young and Drusilla Drake had four sons, Homer, Virgil, Paul, and George. Further reference was made in a preceding chapter, however. Homer could rightfully be called great grandfather today.

Jonathan Yerkes, the pioneer who came to the Eshetunk Valley in 1803 was born near Philadelphia. December 5, 1759 of German ancestry. In 1789 he married Elizabeth Jarrette and both died in Damascus township. Politically he was a Whig, and later a Democrat and both he and his wife were reared in the Quaker faith. The wife died February 3, 1883 and the husband followed March 27, 1835. The fifth generation now succeeds this pioneer.

ISAAC LOVELASS the pioneer, and his wife, Anna Mills-Lovelass were natives of England and were married in that country. For a time after reaching America Mr. Lovelass located in Philadelphia, later coming to Damascus township where he remained until 1835, when he moved to what is now Smith Hill, Oregon township. In 1874 he went to Wisconsin and took up a tract of land with the intention of making a permanent location there. He returned for his family but died soon after reaching the home occupied by his family on Smith Hill. Mr. Lovelass and wife left the following family of children: Mary born in Halifax, Nova Scotia in 1832, became the wife of George Sheard and their ancestors still reside in Calkin. John born in Philadelphia, November 23, 1833, married Charlotte Gavitt and as a second wife married Marrilla Mathews, of Lebanon township; Emily born in Damascus township July 10, 1835, married David Orr and two children were the issue - viz; Eliza J. who married A. E. Sisson, and now resides on Cliff St. Honesdale, and William D. who married Mattie Crocker, and (2) Mrs. Etta-Tyler-Brown and reside in Calkin. Isaac born in Damascus township December 23, 1837 married Rebecca Fish in 1865. Mrs. Lovelass was born August 29, 1842. Their children were Lena (born in 1870) Lydia (born in 1862 died in 1886), Isaac Newton, 1874; Laura S. 1876, Homer 1878. Mrs. Lovelass died Nov. 23, 1927 at the homestead in Fallsdale at the age of 85. An unmarried daughter Laura, remaining with the aged parents. Isaac Lovelass died Feb. 2 (sic) 1923. His brother John (Jack) W. married Charlotte Gavitt, daughter of William and Violetta Mithbell-Gavitt died August 24, 1902. Mrs. Lovelass died in March 1891. This couple were the parents of twelve children; Adeline, Violette, Howard, Rosella, Joseph, James, Lee, Elmyra, Florence, Eva, Frank and Ursula. Mary Lovelass-Sheard died August 30, 1904. Emily Lovelass-Orr died June 21, 1910; Abigail Lovelass-Skinner died May 13, 1919. William Lovelass a native of England was among the early settlers in Damascus township. He raised a family of four sons; John, Robert, Isaac and James. Robert was born in England, married Ann Wilkins there in 1837 and came to the little hollow in what is now called East Calkin. Their children were Samuel, Jonathan, Sarah Ann, Cyrus and Charles. In 1878, Robert again returned to England and died there August 12, 1893; the wife died March 8, 1894. The daughter, Sarah A. died March 11, 1917, the son Cyrus W. died November 11, 1927. In this family is a clock said to be over 500 years old.

The three brothers, Robert, John and James Lovelass all located on land adjacent. Later John moved to Damascus village and followed the painter trade. He married Mary Harding, a school teacher. Their children were Margaret, Isabelle, Christian Spymour and Watson. John Lovelass died Dec. 18, 1894, aged 82 years; his wife, M. died in January 1903. James lived and died at his first location. He was born in England Nov. 21, 1816, a son of William and Mary Lovelass. The father died at age of 92 and the mother at the age of 60. It was said that William Lovelass built the first frame house in the vicinity. In 1841 James married Emeline, daughter of Alvan Noble and to them were born six children; William, Alice, Amelia, Eliza

beth, Florence and Lester. Mr. Lovelass was a shoemaker and many a time the writer then a small boy, watched him drive the pegs in half soling our boots and shoes. He also made them. He had an apprentice named Charles Bartlett who graduated from his shop and set up business for himself at Kimball Corners. On February 18, 1878, Mr. Bartlett and Miss Mabel Allen had been to some convention and in crossing the D. & E. Gravity road at Prompton, riding in a cutter drawn by one horse were hit by a "trip" of empties. Mr. Bartlett was killed and although his companion was catapulted over the embankment and alighted upon the ice in the river, was uninjured.

Nicholas O. Major and Hiram Major at one time residents near Tyler Hill both enlisted in the Civil War, serving in Company I, John Ross Captain. Hiram married Mary, daughter of Sebastian and Mary Sherwood-Yerkes and the following children were born to them, viz: Nicholas, Sarah, Ina, William, Gertrude, George, and Louis. On 900, Mr. Major sold his property at Tyler Hill and moved to Broome County N.Y. Wilson Major, father of Nicholas and Hiram, was born in Monroe county in 1885 and died in 1889. His children were Nicholas, Hiram, William, Gertrude, Anna, a school teacher. She married a Mr. Wheeler and migrated to Dakota; and Wilton who spent his last days in Honesdale.

JOHN AS LAKIN

Jonas Lakin was born in New Hampshire in 1765 and upon attaining the age of manhood came to the Delaware Valley settling at Hankins, N.Y. in 1800, and remaining there until 1821 when he moved farther up the Delaware and founded the village now called Hancock. He died at Hancock in 1848. After coming to the Delaware Valley Mr. Lakin met and married Miss Prudence Parks, who settled at Equinunk, was the first white settler there ~~announced~~ and the first white child born there is conjectured to be Mrs. Lakin, who was born in a cave. She died at the remarkable age of 108 years. Her father was referred to in a preceding chapter. As it said, however, after coming to the Delaware Valley, Mr. Parks had a life of privation and hardships and because he enlisted in the American army and chose to act as a scout he was hunted from place to place by the Indians and Tories. The children of Jonas and Prudence Parks-Lakin were nine in number: William, Elmira, Sallows, Omar, A., Arab S. Thankful, Sally M., George and Robert.

John and Parthena (Thomas) Lakin came to the upper Delaware from Vermont. Their children were Sarah, Civilla, Maria, Susan and Mindie. The latter became the fourth wife of Dr. William L. Appley of Cochection, both deceased, the former in January 1877.

Alexander and Samuel MCCRIDGE, Englishmen by birth, came to America and like many others, made their way up the Delaware river journeying upward until they reached where is now Manchester township. This seemed to be their "Alabama" for there they pitched their tent. This was in 1813. One morning in September seven years later (1820) a youth pulled the latch string of their cabin and walked in unannounced. This youth was their nephew, Matthias MegrIDGE (Matt) then only 18 years of age. He had served on a man-of-war in England and had heard such glowing accounts of the new world that he came to see for himself. He returned soon to England but the lure of the wild appealed to him strongly and he returned to Manchester along the Delaware and therein 1883 died. He became a noted lumber dealer and Delaware river steersman. From the source of the Delaware to its mingling with the Atlantic the mention of the name Matt MegrIDGE brought all to attention as he was noted for his linguistic feats. He could not be out-talked and was not. Horace Greeley, the founder of the New York Tribune, and considered a great talker, heard of the famous Matt and sent for him an invitation for him to visit the Tribune founder when in New York. This Matt did and as he was his own nomenclature when he arrived where Mr. Greeley was he turned on the hot air and continued incessantly for one hour not giving Mr. Greeley the least chance to start an opening wedge in the matter of conversation. At the end of the time mentioned Matt came to an abrupt halt and said Mr. Greeley now you talk. As soon as the vanquished, although renowned newspaper editor could regain his speech he raised his hands in dismay and beckoned Matthew to go as he had nothing to say. Another time Matt was returning from down the river when raftsmen when raftsmen came across New Jersey by train and up the Hudson by steam-

boat to Newburgh, then by the Tarry-Ho and Four over the pike to the Delaware Valley, he began talking as soon as he got upon the boat. The passengers all crowded around him causing the boat to list heavily. In great alarm the Captainsought Matt and told him they would upset and asked him to go to some other part of the boat. Matt went to the other side and the crowd followed. The crew was then ordered to shift ballast to meet demands.

CHAPTER XXIV

January 7 1928

When the Newburgh and Cochection Turnpike was completed and made a traffic way in 1810, and when two years later it had been extended across the great hills to Great Bend, Pa., making a thoroughfare from that point to the Hudson river, there was great rejoicing over the great achievement of human ingenuity and well there might be for did it not give the still pioneer settlement in the Delaware Valley an ingress egress other than pushing a canoe of heavier boat up against the strongly flowing river. It planned the topography of this section through which it was built and it caused villages to spring up where they would not otherwise have been built and men built homes along it because it gave them a way to and from their home. It imparted new life to the pioneer struggling for an existence in the heart of an unbroken forest. It was a great convenience while it lasted but it was too primitive for long life, its day was soon over, less than half a century later the iron horse with a roar that almost shook the hillsides thundered up the Delaware river.

COMING OF THE ERIE

December 21, 1843 the Erie Railroad Company sent its construction train, the Piermont up the line then finished a little west of Callicoon. To most of the settlers along the river which the railroad paralleled its coming was unheralded and as it came slowly up the line of iron rails iron grinding upon rocks, and rumble and rattle, with a crude steam whistle at full vent people were all but frightened out of their wits as the like had never before been heard. Two hunters were in the vicinity of Pike Pond, now Kenosha Lake, when they heard the weird screech of the whistle and listening concluded it was a panther or painter as old timers called it, and at once started pell-mell across the wooded stretch to intercept and kill the varment. Nothing stopped them and their dogs in their mad race, through swamps and briars over ridges and ledges the men plunged until panting for breath, their clothing torn and bespattered with mud, they rushed out of the underbrush at where is now Callicoon, only a few jumps behind the iron monster that had just stopped and with steady hissing from its valves they were wiled with a consternation that would not have been manifested had they seen the object of their hunt. It was their first sight of a locomotive and how it thrilled them as they gave it the look-over cannot be even conjectured.

Like the turnpike, the railroad was not constructed in a day. The Erie began the work of surveying and blazing the way in 1832, sixteen years before the Piermont made the run to Callicoon. Carrying passengers was started in 1849 but the regular opening for passengers and baggage and freight was not until 1850. But literally speaking, the people went wild, on May 14, 1851, at the formal opening of the Erie. That important morning two trains started from Piermont, New York, the eastern terminus and went to Dunkirk, N.Y. the western end of the line, a distance of about 450 miles, taking two days for the trip. On the train as guests were the President of the United States and many of the most distinguished public men in the United States. The trains stopped at every station and crowds were there to greet them with wild enthusiasm. Trains had been making regular trips as far west as Corning in 1850, the first locomotive to enter being in December, 1849. For fifteen years the Erie Company had desperate struggles against adverse conditions, but by the help of Gen. Diven of Elmira in brains and pluck the line was finished from tidewater to Lake Erie.

AN IMPORTANT EVENT

It was at that time the most important event in the history of railroading building that had ever occurred in America. It was the opening of the longest continuous line of railroad in the world; it was the beginning of the present great era of railroad building and rule in the financial and commercial realms, consequently it was just considered worthy of national attention.

and the managers of the Company arranged for giving the very first through excursion party ever known in this country, and made it one which has never been equalled in the number of distinguished men who composed it. They were Millard Fillmore of the United States, Daniel Webster, secretary of State, W.C. Graham sec'y of navy, N.K. Hall, postmaster general; United-states-senators John J. Crittenden, attorney general; U.S. Senators-W.H. Seward, Hamilton Fish, Stephen A. Douglas, Gov. Hunt and staff; ex-Gov. Marcy; J.C. Mather, canal commissioner; Hon. Daniel S. Dickerson, William E. Dodge, Hon. W.H. Jessup, Gen. Alexander S. Diven, Dr. Eldridge and many other local men of less luminary importance. The two trains pulled into Elmira at 6.30 P.M. of the day of starting (May 14, 1841 (51) About 600 guests were aboard the train as men of importance locally joined the excursion at every stop made. All along the train was cheered by thousands of people as it wended its way and cannon were fired. Dodworth's famous New York band accompanied the party. The entrance of this distinguished party into Elmira was amid the cheers of an immense crowd and the booming of heavy artillery. People from far and near in the surrounding country had assembled to take part in the great event.

GREAT MEN AT OPENING EVENT

The trains stopped for the night at that point. President Fillmore and suite and some of the guests were escorted by the military band to the Brainerd House and Daniel Webster, Governor Marcy, and others to the Haight House. The President held a levee in the evening when he was introduced to the citizens. A sumptuous supper was served followed by music and dancing, many of the notables joining in the mirth. The train left Elmira at 6.30 next morning, May 15, and reached Corning about 7. It stopped briefly as many people were assembled to see it. Webster, Crittenden, and Marcy alighted from the train and walked about the platform; but according to an old resident, no enthusiasm was manifested there and no one from Corning joined the distinguished party because they were all Whigs and the sentiment of Corning was not much inclined towards Whigs. Viewing it now that would seem to have been a very narrow way to look upon the celebration of the greatest transportation event of the century, beginning as it did, an era in the history of Corning. In these progressive days such a fact would have a decidedly strange sound.

From Corning westward the trains were greeted by immense crowds at every station, and the party was presented with flags and banners by the enthusiastic populace. Either President Fillmore, Webster, Crittenden, Seward, or some other of the distinguished men made addresses. At Dayton, east of Dunkirk, a tragic incident happened, followed by one which should be historic. A cannon that was being fired in honor of the occasion burst and fatally injured two men. Daniel Webster immediately started a collection among the excursionists, dropping a \$5 gold piece in his hat to begin with, for the benefit of the two men and a generous response was met. At 4 o'clock on the second day of the trip, with flags flying and cannon booming, amid shouts of fully 20,000 people the trains pulled into Dunkirk. The entire trains and equip,ent, locomotives and all did not represent as large an outlay in construction as any one of the palaces in the service of any first class railroad of today, but the most palatial train that ever made its way over the richest road in America, since that day, ever numbered among human freight a more distinguished party than the one who alighted from these primitive cars at Dunkirk on that momentous occasion. At that time only one other great railroad had been built, and that was from St. Petersburg to Moscow in Russia. The present stupenduous Pennsylvania Railroad was then but a local line owned by the state of Pennsylvania with its western terminus at Hollidaysburg, Pa. Albany was then connected with Buffalo and Rochester only by a ramshackle chain of local roads of different gauges subsequently combined into uniform system, which is the powerful New York Central of today. The Baltimore and Ohio, the pioneer great railroad line of America had yet no important western connection and was conspicuous only as the protector of Baltimore's trade against the attractions of southern markets which were made convenient by the Mississippi river navigation; thence the arrival of that memorable train at Dunkirk seventy-six years ago, marked the first epoch in railroad transportation of really national importance.

A GREAT CELEBRATION

Great preparations had been made in Dunkirk for this celebration of event. It was the

the first locomotive they had seen. Bells rang, Cannon boomed, flags waved, bands played, ceremonial processions wound about the city and great orators addressed the crowd, admiring and astonished crowd. Luncheon was spread upon a table a quarter of a mile long and a public barbecue, for which two oxen and ten sheep had been roasted. Platforms had been erected and from these the eminent guest spoke to the crowds. Webster was not of the speakers and cries for him were loud and long between every speech, but met with no response from him and murmurs of disappointment increased to positive and emphatic manifestations of disgust. Finally after a speech by Gen. Joe Hoxie, whose humor and witticism convinced the assemblage, Mr. Webster appeared, in response to cries and demonstrations that seemed more like those of rioters than of peaceable citizens. The great orator was haggard and disheveled. His speech consisted mostly in excusing himself in consequence of fatigue and illness but he made a few remarks about the great work just completed and dwelt at some length on the necessity of preserving the union. Murmurs of disappointment followed Mr. Webster's withdrawal from the platform. He was too ill to leave the city until the second day after the celebration. Before he departed he made a speech to the citizens that more than compensated them for their former disappointment.

A LEGAL QUARREL

A great dinner was spread in the Loder House- named in honor of the president of the New York and Erie Railroad Company- for President Fillmore and the distinguished guests. The after dinner speeches were great but one came near leading to serious consequences. This speech was made by the famous New York lawyer, William B. Ogden. He reflected severely on the state of Pennsylvania for charging the Erie company \$20,000 a year for the privilege of passing over a poor portion of its territory. This aroused and incensed Gen. Irwin of Pittsburg who denied the charge of meanness and made some uncomplimentary allusions to Mr. Ogden, who defended the position. Angry words followed and a personal collision was imminent when Judge Jessup of Montrose, Pa. arose and said that he was employed by the railroad to obtain the law at Harrisburg and that it was perfectly satisfactory. Mr. Ogden apologized handsomely saying he had been misinformed. On the return trip the excursion party again remained over night in Elmira where a grand ball was given. Neither pen nor brush can adequately portray this most illustrious opening of the railroad that winds through the Delaware Valley paralleling its course.

ORIGIN OF NAMES ALONG ERIE.

The origin of some of the names of some of the stations in the Delaware Valley follows. Deposit, an Indian name, was Cookhurse, or Owland River. The first settler was John Hulce who came there in 1789. The village was incorporated in 1811. After ground was broken for the Erie in 1848, the village took on rapid growth.

Hale's Eddy was named from a man named Hale, and from the eddy in the river.

Hancock was named in honor of John Hancock, who wrote the Declaration of Independence. The first name of the village was Checocton, or Shohawken. The place was also called Forks of the Delaware and mail was addressed to that place as such. Similar sounding names made the postal department change the name to Hancock about 1850. Stephen Read was an early settler and Jonas Lakin the founder.

Long Eddy, or Basket, was named for a long eddy of the Delaware.

Hankins was named after John Hankins. It was formerly Fremont, but after the advent of the Erie became Hankins.

Callicoon, derived its name from an old Dutch name, Kalligeen which meant turkey the country abounding in that game in the back sections. It was later translated to the present name.

Cochecton took its name from Cushtunk, or Cuzhietunk, a name of Indian origin.

Skinner's Falls so named from a pioneer name and the falls in the Delaware.

Narrowsburg named for the narrowness of the Delaware at the village. The fact that the river immediately broadens to a lake in size, or eddy, the village for a time was called Big Eddy/

Mast Hop named so because some men of Philadelphia who were furnishing the lumber for the ship Constitution hunted along the Delaware for a tree suitable for a main mast but had given up in despair when they were told by some natives to go back up about six miles and they would find what they wanted. They found the tree and it took eight teams of oxen to get it to

the river. Hence the name Mast Hope. Lackawaxen at the junction of the Delaware and Lackawaxen rivers is of Indian origin, meaning the meeting or joining of waters. Parker's Glen named in honor of Alton Parker, a lumber and stone dealer. He has a niece residing in Galilee. Shohola is derived from Indian words meaning goose rest, so called on account of the number of geese that came there to feed.

Chapter

January 17, 1938

Writer's note: On account of errors and omissions in a former issue and general mix-up in the Lassley sketch in Chapter XXII we are giving it again corrected and revised.)

THE LASSLEYS

John Lassley was the forbear of all the Lassleys up the Cushetunk Valley. He came to this section of the Delaware Valley at the same time as the Thomas, Tyler, Ross, Skinner, Calkin and Young families did- 1754. He took up a tract of land adjacent to that of Aaron Thomas on the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware river immediately below Cochection Falls. He came as a single man but soon married Sarah Tyler. They had three children, Cornelius, who married Lana Deck-Wuhsner, Sarah who became the wife of Parks Baird and Elizabeth who married John Salisbury, who settled in Cayuga county, N.Y.

When the Revolutionary War broke out our subject in company with his relative the Tylers, enlisted in a New York state company and served under Captain Peter Miller and in Captain Baldwin's regiment, and was honorably discharged at the close of the war. His name appears on the monument recently erected in Honesdale dedicated to the Soldiers of the American Revolution.

He was a man of small structure but of wonderful activity and endurance. It was said that he was one of the best marksmen with a rifle among the pioneers of eastern Wayne county. When he returned to his home along the Delaware after the close of the war he engaged in farming and lumbering and lived an honored and respected citizen and neighbor to the ripe old age of one hundred years. He died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Salisbury in Cayuga county New York.

A touching incident in the life of the grand old pioneer soldier has often been rehearsed by his grandson Cornelius and handed down to the younger generations as a lesson in patriotism. As his grandson, a mere boy approached the home of this venerable relative on one of his many morning calls he was both surprised and frightened to see crepe floating from the door latch but he continued onward to the humble home of his revered relative. The old gentleman was met at the door and with tears streaming down his furrowed cheeks told him that George Washington was dead and he had hung the emblem of mourning upon the door because he loved the departed man as though he were his father, and he was the Father of his country.

His only son, Cornelius, was drowned in the Delaware river at Narrowsburg while trying to save a raft during a flood. His son Cornelius left four children, viz, Cornelius, John, Catharine, and Eleanor. John married Mary Branning and they had five children, viz. Cornelius 3rd, John Jones, Esther and Lana. Cornelius married Josephine daughter of Joseph G. and Sabra Brown-Holbert of Lackawaxen and bought a farm along the Narrowsburg turnpike in Damascus township in 1850 where he and his brother John farmed and lumbered. Cornelius had six daughters and three sons, viz; Killa, Etta, Lana, Marcus, Sabra, George, Josephine, Mattie and Cornelius J. Cornelius the father, died in 1907 leaving eight children surviving. The last named son resides on the old homestead bought in 1850.

John Lassley married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas and Nora Slocum-Woodley and to them were born four daughters, viz. Fannie, Nora, Eva and Elizabeth. The last named married George Whittaker and they reside at Deposit. She is the only survivor of the family. The father, John, located near the home of his brother Cornelius. He was killed at Narrowsburg, N.Y. in 1887 by an Erie train. The children of John Y. Lassley referred to above were Fannie who married George Cochran, Nora who married Samuel Bernard, Eva who married John Keppel.

Of the children of James and July Hendricks we cannot say excepting that they named their children George, Warren and a daughter who married Marcus Elmore, went to reside in Dunmore, Pa. James Lassley located at Swamp Mills, New York. Esther

Ruth Lassley married William Warren Tyler of Damascus and their only child was Louisa Y. who married Rev. Theron Brittain of Cocheaton, as his second wife. Both are deceased.

Lana Lassley married James Tyler, son of Judge Moses and Sally Ross-Tyler. Their children are Nora, the wife of B. K. Bush of Greene, Chenango co. N.Y. They have a son Hanford but his residence is unknown to the writer, and a daughter who married Elmer Tyler and they reside at Conklin Hill; and Carrie who married Thomas Ellison as his second wife. The husband is deceased and Mrs. Ellison resides in Damascus.

The children of Cornelius and Josephine Holber- Lassley are - Etta who married Lou Stanton for a first husband and H. G. Carmichael as a second. By the first marriage there were three sons, Cornelius, Charles and Nathan. The oldest and youngest died young. Charles married and resides in Delanson, N.Y. and has seven children; Ella married a Smith, now deceased. They had four children. Most of this family has branched into families of their own. Marcus married and resides in East Falls Church, Va. His son Ray and wife reside in Washington, D.C. Lann married Banalool C. Ross and their progeny are Porter of Jersey City, N.J.; Chester who with a wife and child reside in Wilmington, Delaware; Laura became the wife of Clinton K. Abraham (deceased). They had one daughter Bertie; Sabra married Joseph Wood of Boyd Mills. Have no knowledge concerning the family; George B. married Mary, daughter of Peter and Louisa Stenstighofer-Alfast. Their children are Myrtle who became the wife of Squire Louis A. Hocker of Milanville and their children are George, Inez and Willard, and Joseph G. married Pauline Melva Seipp and their children are Mary Lucille and Alfred George; Miss Josephine, ; Mattie deceased; Cornelius J. who married Nora Davis. Their family is one son John Y. who married Minnie Steffins. They have one daughter, Mildred. The Lassleydaughters (Cornelius and wife) now surviving and Mrs. Laura Abraham all reside in Binghamton, N.Y.

February 28, 1828

BATTLE OF ST TAMMANY FLATS

(Writer's note. An interesting and valuable historical account of the female battle on the north end of the St Tammany Flats nearly two hundred years ago is from the archives of the late Ezra F. Calkin of Cochection who was graciously sent to us by his daughter Mrs. Etta Calkin-Burr, of Cochection, who was a schoolmate and friend of ours at the Damascus Union Academy.)

In the spring of 1774 Nat Evans, Abraham Ross and Phineas Clark lived in a house on the ground where Judge Moses Tyler later built a house for one of his sons. On of the Skinners lived on the Flats about 80 rods from where George Bush resided later. Evans Ross and Clark had proposed to each other to combine forces and drive Skinner out of the country that they might have the whole flats to themselves and the cutting and rafting of the lumber on the Flats. But as Skinner had his brother Haggia living with him and both are resolute men who would not give up without a fierce struggle they hesitated in the undertaking, nevertheless they had a strong desire for the coveted Flats yet they dreaded to make the attack upon the Skinners and thus matter stood without any conclusion.

The women had heard their husbands talk of the proposed attack and when alone they had plans of their own. If the men folks had not the courage to attack two men they would make the attack upon Mrs Skinner. The belligerents were aunt Sarah (Mrs. Evans) aunt Hulda (Mrs. Ross) and Mrs Clark. At length rafting time came and the men were all busy at the river. The women left to themselves thought it time to strike a decisive blow. Accordingly one pleasant afternoon in May the three women held another council meeting and decided finally to make the attack if their husbands lacked the courage to do so. Aunt Hulda said to her associates that if Skinner can be driven off we could move into his house and Ross and Evans could help Clark and they would soon put up a house on the clearing on the lower end of the flat for you and Clark. Mrs. Clark acquiesced saying all very good, we are fretting about the inactivity of our husbands when we have the power to put ourselves in possession without assistance. We are stout women and Skinner's wife you know is a little bit of a thing and her daughter Phoebe but a child and if I am not mistaken they are very cowardly. Then all we have to do is to put their things outdoors and ours in and if they resist I'll hold Mrs. Skinner who is Hulda will throw their things out and put ours in and then you will have full possession. This sounded like good logic to the two listening women and all felt assured that the conquest would be an easy one and they sallied forth to execute their plan so easily formulated. However, they soon found out to their dismay that the battle is not always to the strong. When they arrived at Skinner's house they found only Phoebe (13) Reuben (5) Daniel (3) and Lillie about 3 months old. Skinner's wife had gone a short distance on some errand and left Phoebe to care for the house and the children. Finding the house as it was practically deserted they fancied themselves ~~announced~~ already in possession of the coveted prize. But alas! little they did think they were about to catch a Tartar. It is fair to presume that preliminaries were brief. Aunt Hulda proceeded to carry the household effects into the street, but Phoebe, who possessed a fair share of her mother's grit, carried them back in again. Aunt Hulda continued to carry the goods out doors and when Phoebe attempted to carry them back Mrs. Clark caught hold of her to prevent it. Phoebe by the trip of her foot, that she had learned from the Yankee boys, brought her heavily to the floor, and at the same time clinched her by the hair (it was not bobbed in those days) and as she had often seen the necks of chickens wrung, she endeavored to do the same thing with Mrs. Clark. This act of Phoebe together with the impact of the fall upon the hard floor so badly disabled her that she lay apparently lifeless. At this stage in the melee Mrs. Skinner appeared upon the scene and seeing Phoebe mauling the prostrate figure of Mrs Clark went to pull her away, not comprehending the true nature of affairs. Aunt Hulda supposing Mrs. Skinner was in a fighting mood too, knocked her down with the stone, the blow inflictin

an ugly gash in her head from which the blood flowed freely, then caught her by the hair and called lustily for Aunt Sarah to help her. Phoebe who by this time had rendered her opponent horsedecombat, sprang to assist her mother. Aunt Sarah sprang upon Phoebe and then the battle raged fiercely, each having an opponent to deal with. Although the battle had only begun each party in the affray was minus both cap and hair. The quartette of fighting females surged to and fro each inflicting upon the other all the punishment she could. Neither tradition nor the data from which our writer states whether foul language or anathemas was used as it was their privilege to use discretion when recounting the account. How long this equal and unequal fight might have continued is a matter of conjecture but it had not been for a pail of ashes that stood near Mrs. Skinner. She caught up a handful intending to apply them to the wound upon her head to stop the flow of blood but this she never did as the demon of war whispered to her to cram it into the mouth and eyes of aunt Hulda. Thus she did and seeing the good effect followed it with another handful. This gave the desired effect and she was given the solarplexus blow that put her out of the fight also. Mrs. Skinner the badly wounded and nearly exhausted with a mother's instinct turned to her daughter. But by that time both Phoebe and Aunt Sarah had become pretty nearly exhausted and had called an armistice until they could get their second breath. Before this branch of the army were ready to resume hostilities, two against one now Mrs. Clark had recovered sufficiently to come forward and sue for peace. In the meantime Aunt Hulda had gone to the Delaware river to wash the ashes from her mouth and eyes and returned as Mrs. Clark begged for mercy. With one accord all sat down to talk the matter over and formulate plans of peace. Each lamented that they had lost their caps (matrons wore caps of light material, with ruffle fronts in those days) and hair but each consoled herself that all had lost equally. The passion or revenge and further prospect of getting possession of the coveted Flats with its immense growth of virgin pine trees had somewhat cooled off and reason began to appear in their blurred vision and muddled brains. All found out that there was no pleasure in having their hair pulled out and their head adornments ruined. But it was a case of "with what measure ye mete it shall be measured unto you", and "All that take the sword shall perish with the sword". Under these considerations none were anxious to resume the fight. All were losing precious blood and the wound on Mrs. Skinner's head was serious. What a subject for a skilled artist of the brush, or one with a camera. This quintette would be hideous as they squatted in this log cabin near the Delaware at the head of the Flats named in honor of the great Indian chief Tamanend- St. Tammany. Five respectable women, capless, hairless, clothes in tatters (homespun goods at that) and covered with dust and gore. What a sight for these women to gaze upon! In this posture they remained only a few minutes and then all repaired to the river, not to wash away the sins they had just committed, and repented, but to wash the filth from their bodies and to staunch the flow of blood that was oozing from their nose, head, and other lacerations on their body. While thus engaged the three besieging women explained their motive for the attack, acknowledging their wrong, prayed for forgiveness and solemnly promised to refrain from their evil and machination ways in the future. When she had heard this confession Mrs. Skinner showed true Christianity by sending Phoebe (who had suffered least of all in the affray) to the house telling her to put over the teakettle, bake a johnny cake, boil some potatoes and roast some dried eels as all needed refreshments after what they had been through. Phoebe carried out the order to the letter and soon the steaming dainties were spread upon the table around which the three amiable ladies, their hostess and her daughter surrounded. It is said the meal was eaten with a cheerful and harmonious spirit. The guests exonerated themselves from being the principals in the shameful act throwing the blame upon others. At this feast they entered into a covenant of friendship and peace which was never violated, and Aunt Sarah and Mrs. Skinner lived many years near neighbors in peaceful harmony.

Chapter XXVIII March 13, 1928

A NIGHT IN THE WOODS

Late in the fall of 1833 two boys, aged seven and nine years, were sent from their log cabin home, on the property now owned by the Silver Lake Development Company operating in the Country Club, across an unbroken forest on an errand to some home in another settlement about two miles distant. It was late in the afternoon when the boys started on the mission but they made good time in reaching their destination. They made short stories suffice and were soon on their way back home. They had taken no note of the passing time and as they again entered the density of the forest the broad disc of the sun was not far above the horizon. This they could not see for the overhead foliage. Soon they found that night had settled all around them and they began to feel the biting cold of the late fall evening. In the darkness they could not determine their course. They were lost in the thick laurel at the head of what is now Laurel Lake but they kept stumbling on and finally came to an old deserted cabin. They went in and resolved to remain until morning altho it was cold and damp in there. The older boy soon curled up on the floor and went to sleep but the other was too cold for that and kept exercising all night to keep warm. In the light of day they found their bearings and found too that the lake had frozen over during the night. That younger boy was Jacob L. (aTourette) Rutledge, son of Alexander Rutledge and Mary Ann Latourette. The mother was born August 20, 1828, their birthday being the same day of the month but 20 years apart. Jacob was twenty years old when the iron horse made its advent up the Delaware Valley. He was an excellent shot with the rifle and it is said that as many as fifty deer were shot by him in one year.

Fanny Rutledge, daughter of pioneer Alexander, married Henry Pierce and they located in Preston township. Their daughter Ann married Dan LaMont of Preston and their children married there where descendants may be found today. Mrs. Pierce died in 1880. Perhaps the oldest Rutledge descendant today is Mrs. Fannie McKee 84, of 173 Park Street, Carneddale, Pa. She was a daughter of Chris Rutledge and Sarah Ann Turner. The latter was an aunt of Mrs. Florence Ellison of Galilee. Mrs. McKee is the widow of Andrew McKee, late of Preston. One son Frank resides in Philadelphia. Chris Rutledge made the first clearing where Fred Schweighofer now lives.

LAUREL LAKE HISTORY

The writer caught no trace of whom first owned what is now called the Laurel Lake property but it was subsequently bought by William Doughty, Sr. of Washington, D.C. being the same tract of land mentioned in a deed of Release from Steward Brown of the city of New York a letter of Attorney to execute and deliver such deed of Release dated on the ninth day of July in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine and recorded in Mortgage Book No. 3 page 178, etc. in the office of the Recorder of Deeds in Wayne County aforesaid. The property at that time consisted of 1227 acres more or less.

William Doughty, Sr. served in the war of 1812 and was promoted to a colonel. He was a ship builder and had ship yards in Washington and Philadelphia. In those days ships were mostly constructed of live oak and both he and his son William made frequent trips through the southern states to buy his kind of lumber. The son William owned real property and gave time and attention to the same. On one of these lumbering trips Col. Doughty met David Scudder, of New York state who with his family of eight children had migrated to a location in Louisiana, about 200 miles from New Orleans. He died there three years later. A friendship sprung up between the two men and it was from Scudder that the Colonel learned of the Wayne county Pa. property being on the market. Col. Doughty sent his son William to investigate the matter. After looking the property over to his satisfaction he returned to his father and the purchase was made. Col. Doughty never came to Wayne Co. nor near the Laurel Lake property. On July 12, 1842 William Doughty Jr. married Elizabeth Scudder. This was in the same year David Scudder died. Soon after the death of the father the Scudder family came North and located in Damascus township (1847) and remained two years, going to Lebanon in 1849 and remained there until 1858 when the last of them moved to Prompton, Pa.

A LOT OF LAND FOR \$5

On July 24, 1845 Willaim Doughty conveyed by Deed 1227 acres of land in Damascus township, County of Wayne and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to his son William Doughty Jr., consideration \$5.

William Doughty Jr., and wife then took possession of the new property. Mr. Doughty built a saw mill and turning factory on the outlet stream of the lake about a quarter of a mile south of the lake. He selected a site and yet in the 40' built an imposing dwelling house, the main contour face still showing surrounded by the remodellings and annexes that have been added. He dug the well in front of the home and erected farm buildings.

DAUGHTER AT HONESDALE

The younger Doughty intended to return south again to reside on his property there but by the time he was ready to go the Rebellion was on and what property he had was destroyed. Mr. and Mrs. Doughty have one daughter surviving. Anna M. who became the wife of Charles Eldred, of Honesdale, and still resides there. After residing on the Laurel Lake property until 1883 they removed to Honesdale where both died in 1889. William Doughty was the only one of the family who located in Wayne County and it is not known whether any descendants of the Doughty name survive anywhere except the one named above.

William Doughty soon began selling off parcels of his purchase and the following is of interest an abstract of titles from him and wife to the present owners:

William Doughty soon began selling O. Brown- Deed dated October 10, 1849, containing 52 acres and 112 perches.

William Doughty and wife to Isaac O. Brown own Deed dated October 10 1849 containing 52 acres and 112 perches. (Typing errors here)

William Doughty and wife to Isaac mas ? Fortnam Deed dated January 10, 1849 containing 50 acres.

William Doughty and wife to Nathan Tyler, Deed dated July 14, 1849, containing 119 acres and four perches.

William Doughty and wife to David Scudder Deed dated August 31, 1849 containing 57 acres and 133 perches.

William Doughty and wife to William B. Yerkes Deed dated July 31, 1850 containing 100 acres.

William Doughty and wife to John Tyler Deed dated February 1, 1850 containing 44 acres 113 perches.

William Doughty and wife to William B. Yerkes Deed dated August 29, 1852 containing 50 acres, and 27 perches.

William Doughty and wife to John S. Dodge Deed dated October 15, 1850 containing 80 acres and 90 perches.

Wm. Doughty and wife to Henry Jackson, Deed dated March 16, 1863 containing 24 acres and 6 perches.

William Doughty and wife to John D. Wilsey Deed dated April 10, 1883 containing 50 acres and 92 perches.

William Doughty and wife to John H. Cassidy and wife Deed dated July 9, 1883, containing 1227 acres with exceptions out.

John H. Cassidy and wife to Esther M. Nevins wife of Thomas Nevins Deed dated December 15, 1887 containing 1227 acres with exceptions out.

Thomas Nevins and Esther Nevins to Samuel McBride, Deed dated May 19, 1883, containing 1227 acres with exceptions out.

George R. Brown and wife to Robert F. Rhodes Deed dated June 27, 1892 containing 1227 acres with exceptions out.

Samuel McBride and wife to George R. Brown and his wife Deed dated May 17, 1891, containing 1227 acres with exceptions out.

Robert F. Rhoades to Fannie E. Brown Deed dated June 27, 1892 containing 1227 acres with exceptions out.

Fannie E. Brown and George R. Brown to John Lutz, dated May 21, 1894 containing 16A.

Fannie E. Brown and George R. Brown to B. C. Ross Deed dated May 1, 1895, containing 29 acres.

Fannie E. Brown and George R. Brown to Vernleigh A. Keesler and Roy M. Ellison, Deed dated June 20, 1895 containing 100 acres. This 100 acres was later sold back to Fannie E. Brown.

Fannie E. Brown and George R. Brown to John Lutz, Deed dated Dec. 28, 1895 containing 50 acres.

Fannie E. Brown and George R. Brown to B.C. Ross Deed dated December 28, 1895, containing 14 acres 61 perches.

Fannie E. Brown and George R. Brown to James Smith, Deed dated December 28, 1895, containing 95 acres 95 perches.

Fannie E. Brown and George R. Brown to William Smith Deed dated December 28, 1896 containing 55 acres and 45 perches.

Admr. of Fannie E. Brown to William Mitchell Deed dated December 16, 1912 containing 241.5 acres.

William Mitchell and his wife Rose Kamber the undivided half interest, Deed dated March 14, 1913. Whole lot containing 241.5 acres.

William Mitchell to Harried Mitchell The undivided half interest to the undivided half interest Deed dated January 10, 1922 whole lot containing 241.5 acres.

LOCATION OF LAKE

Laurel Lake, itself, with a surface of about 100 acres is located on the crest of one of the spurs of the Delaware river 1300 feet above tide and occupies a very nearly central point in Damascus township. Unlike many other lakes in Wayne county it is free from marsh and the shore line is regular giving it an appearance of beauty to those passing it and is at once captivating to those who give it a close inspection. Nature made it a masterpiece of her handiwork. It was born in specific name when a survey of Wayne county was made but from the deep tangle of rhododendron along part of the shore line it was named Laurel Lake. On the eastern slope rising abrupt a fringe of woods has been left but the denizens of the wild wood no longer make their habitat. The spot was caught in the swirl of this progressive age a decade and a half ago and is now the pioneer and leading summer camp in northern Pennsylvania. It is more than a mere camp, in that sense of the word, it is an institution or village with all the comforts and activities that city bred people demand.

If the giant sachem, Tamanend who ruled his braves here and who journeyed to the Happy Hunting Ground centuries ago, could open his eyes and behold the aspect, he might close them again and with a grunt of satisfaction reuminate that the Medicien man had created a second palace of Happiness.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

This appears to be the last of the articles.

J.T. BRADLEY 83, Dean of WRITERS Writer of Many Papers Wrote Along the Delaware for Democrat (From Callicoon Democrat)

John T. Bradley, aged 83, died Sunday, July 20, 1941 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy M. Ellison, Galilee, with whom he made his home for the past few years. Deceased was born July 14, 1858. Funeral was held Wednesday afternoon at two o'clock at the Methodist church, Damascus: Rev. Bert Hickox officiated: burial in family plot at Hillside cemetery by Undertaker Tegeler. Mr. Bradley was unmarried and no near relatives survive. A sister, Miss Mary Bradley, died several years ago.

He lived his entire lifetime in Damascus township. After attending district school he went to Damaschs Academy and was a student at the County Normal School, Prompton. At the age of sixteen he was licensed to teach school by the school commissioner of Sullivan county, and two years later received a teacher's certificate from Wayne County Superintendent of Schools, D.G. Allen. Mr. Bradley began teaching school at Damascus at the age of eighteen and continued to do so for thirteen years, excepting four months when he taught in Mount Pleasant.

In 1884 he purchased a farm of 56 acres in Damascus township, about four miles from the place of his birth, which he tilled until a few years ago when his health could no longer permit. He then made his home with Mr. and Mrs. Roy Ellison. He gave up teaching in 1889 to devote his entire time to farm work.

For over sixty years he was a contributor of community newsnotes to newspapers in this area. His best known column was "REA'S RAKES" later "Along the Delaware" which appeared for many years in the Democrat. Various articles were also prepared over the identifying initial J.T.B. He prepared interesting budgets, unusual oft-times as sharp as the penpoint used in his perfect penmanship. During the last few years he reluctantly laid aside press contributions as he once told the writer he did not trust his memory. Miles of newspaper copy were written by this veteran, the dean of Wayne County's country correspondants. He was a life long Democrat but took no part in county politics.

INDEX EARLY HISTORICAL EVENTS IN THE DELAWARE VALLEY

ABBAT- 33
 ABRAHAM-3, 41, 44, 47, 54
 ADAMS-23
 ALFAST-- 47-54
 ALLEN-23, 31, 38, 49, 51.
 ANDERSON, 39, 42.
 ANGEL-2, 23
 ANMERMAN-43, 48
 APPELY-11, 18, 31, 32, 42, 49.
 AVERY- 3, 29, 38, 41, 43
 APPLEMAN-14
 BAIRD-16, 20, 39
 BAKER- 41
 BARNES- 3, 21, 33, 46
 BALDWIN- 29
 BARLOW-31
 BARTLET-49
 BASKWELL-34,
 BAULTS-41
 BEACH-11, 31, 39
 BEARDSLEY-19
 BENNETT-- 27
 BENTLEY- 31-40
 BERRY-41
 BERTHEMY-15
 BIEDEKAPP-27
 BISCHOFF-12
 BIZBY-24
 BLAIR-4
 BLUM-40
 BOYCE-33
 BOYD--39, 40
 BONESTEEL 10, 19, 44
 BRADLEY-1, 4, 13, 34, 41, 61
 BRANDMERE-29
 BRANDT-11, 24, 25
 BRANNING-39, 45, 46, 47
 BRECKENRIDGE-33
 BRIGHAM-10, 34, 41
 BRENNAN-45, 46
 BRINK-12, 41
 BRINKMAN-46
 BRIEBANE-34
 BRITTAIN-14, 17, 18, 19, 31, 54.
 BROSTERET-15, 16
 BROWN-3, 29, 34, 38, 39, 41, 46, 48, 59, 60, 61.
 BRUSH-29, 35, 39
 BRYANT-30
 BUCHANAN-46
 BUDD- 39
 BUNNELL-21
 BURK-35
 BURR-27, 43, 57
 BUSH-5, 8, 17, 19, 24, 29, 32, 33
 BUSHNEES-10, 13, 42
 BURCHER-40
 BERNARD-53
 CALKIN-2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 11, 12, 15, 18, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30, 32, 34, 42, 43, 53, 57
 CALLENDER-34
 CANFIELD- 5, 42
 CARMICHEL-54
 CARPENTER-46
 CARTER-7, 24
 CASSIDY- 60
 CHARLESWORTH-11
 CHILDS-44
 CLARK-11, 12, 33, 39, 57, 58
 COCHRAN-53
 CLEMENS-11
 CLEMON-16
 COLE-23
 COMFORT-30, 40
 COLEMAN-33
 CONKLIN-3, 5, 6, 15, 19, 29, 30, 41, 44
 COOLEY-44
 COOPER-33, 34
 COOTS-20, 31
 COSH- 23
 COWARD-45
 CRAMER-40
 CRITTENDEN-51
 CROSSMAN-38
 CROCKER-48
 CUMMING- 5, 23
 CURREN- 34
 CURTIS-3, 15, 26, 32, 34
 DANA-22
 DECKER-21, 39, 53
 DAVIDSON- 29
 DEPUY-45
 DAVIS- 54
 DERMODY-11, 15
 DIKNICK-11, 40
 DIVIN-51
 DICKERSON-51
 DODGE-29, 34, 51, 60
 DODSWORTH-51
 DONEY-33
 DOUGHTY-59-60
 DOW-2, 12
 DRAKE-6, 8, 9, 10, 20, 21, 22, 26, 29, 32, 34, 38, 43, 47
 DUFFIE -38
 EARL-34
 EDWARDS-42
 EFFINGER-31, 32
 ELDRED 2, 40, 46, 60
 ELDRIDGE-51
 ELLISON-40, 54, 60, 61
 ELMORE- 68
 ESTES-33
 EVANS-23, 57, 58
 EGERTON-14
 FANOF-42
 FILLMORE-51
 FITZWILLIAMS 34
 FORTMAN-10, 12, 13, 45, 60
 FISH-48, 51
 FLOWER-11
 FULLER-33
 FURMAN-46
 GAGER-42
 GALLANT-34
 GARDNER-43
 GAVITT-49
 GEDNEY-30
 GORDON-34
 GRAZE-43
 GREELEY-49
 GREGG-11, 43, 45
 GRIFFITH-2, 13
 GRIEWOLD-11, 12, 15, 16
 GUINNIP-11, 17, 18, 31
 HALE-52
 HALL-51
 HAGGERTY-43
 HAMILTON-23
 HANCOCK-52
 HANKINS-21, 38, 52
 HARDING-43
 HARNED-33
 HARDENBURGH -26, 30
 HARPAREE-43, 44
 HARRIS-25, 34
 HARTMAN-44
 HARTWELL-40
 HEDDEN-27, 39, 45
 HENDRICKS-52
 HANTHORNE-24, 25
 HINDSHAW-52
 HICKOX-61
 HILLIER-46
 HOCKER-47-54
 HODGE-31
 HOLBERT-39, 46, 54
 HORNBECK- 46
 HORTON-11
 HOPPER- 34
 HUMPHREY-23, 34
 HULL-45
 HUNT-29, 51
 HUNTER-45
 HUNTING -17
 HULCE-52
 HURD-39
 IRVINE-2, 11, 15, 17, 23, 26, 31, 32
 JACKSON-4, 16, 22, 32, 41, 42, 60
 JARRETTE-47
 JENNINGS-23
 JESSUP-51, 52
 JONES-23, 27, 33, 34, 54, 46
 JUDD-34
 KANE-28, 44
 KAMBER-81
 KAYS-10, 43

- KEEN-45
 KEESLER-42, 60
 KILLOGG-33
 KEPPEL-53
 KIMBALL-33
 KING-27
 KNAPP-11
 KLOSE-17
 KNIGHT-42
 LAKIN-25, 31, 43
 LaMont-59
 LAND-6, 8, 24, 25, 26, 30, 31, 33, 40, 41, 44,
 45, 46, 47, 53, 54
 LASSLEY-15, 35, 43, 46, 47, 53, 54
 LA TOURETTE-59
 LEONARD-39
 LESTER-43
 LILLIE-31, 39
 LINABERRY-33
 LITTLE-43, 45
 LONNIS-33
 LOUNSDENRY-49
 LOWELLS-23, 39, 42, 43, 49
 LOWRY-19
 LUKINS-2, 25, 31
 LUTE-60
 LYBOLT-39
 MAC ARTHUR-33
 MAC AVOY-41
 MARES-41
 MATTHEWS-49
 MAHINE-17
 HAROLD-3
 MAJOR-49
 MC INTYRE-3, 33
 MCCOLLUM-41
 MC CRUSTEN-22
 MC BRIDE-33
 MC KEE-53
 MATHER-31
 MARCY-31
 MC KEENE-17 (McKee)
 MARILL-44
 MILLER-15
 NIELS-13, 43
 MITCHELL-3, 4, 6, 10, 12, 13, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61
 MOCK-17
 MOGRIDGE-49, 50
 MOLE-17
 MONINGTON-5, 10, 12, 13, 21, 30, 33, 38, 45
 MORGAN-9
 MORRIS
 MURDOCK-17
 MURRAY-13, 19, 44
 MUSSELMAN-17
 NAPOLEON-15, 31
 NEVINS-60
 NOBLE-10, 39, 48
 NORTH-35
 NORTHRUP-17
 OGDEN-52
 OLIVER-
 OLNSTED-33
 OLVER-12, 31, 33
 ORR-6, 33, 49, 41, 48
 OSBORNE-33
 OWEN-34-39
 PACKARD-11
 PAGE-12, 27, 34, 43, 45
 PARKER-53
 PARKS-23, 25, 49
 PARSONS-2, 14, 33, 40
 PASSMORE-40
 PECK-33
 PELTON-33
 PENNIN-23
 PENN-11, 21, 23, 35
 PETERS-23
 PETHICK-12, 13, 45
 PIERCE-59
 PINNEY-31
 PINTLER-13
 POOLE-45
 DORR-43
 PORTER-321
 PRICE-35
 QUICK-5
 RACE-33
 RANDALE-24
 RAYMOND-29, 30
 READ-52
 REED-31
 REILLY-13, 15, 17, 20, 30, 31
 RENVILLE-33
 REYNOLDS-33
 REMSEN-45
 RIDDLE-17
 RIDER-45
 RHODES-60
 ROBINSON-33
 RODENBURG-31, 44
 ROBERTSON-10, 11
 ROOSA-27
 ROSS-6, 8, 12, 13, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61
 RUSSELL-8, 33
 RUTLEDGE-2, 29, 39, 59
 SALISBURY-43, 53, 56, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61
 SANSON-35
 SCANTLEBURY-43
 SCHENCK-31, 45
 SCHWAB-44
 SCHULTZ-28
 SEELEY-16
 SEIPP-47, 54
 SEYMOUR-17, 33, 43
 SHEARD-31, 43
 SHEARMAN-34
 SIMMONS-16
 SCHWEIGHOFER-3, 41, 54, 59
 SCUDDER-59
 SHERWOOD-32, 39, 40, 49
 SHIELDS-2, 11, 17, 33, 34, 38, 39
 SPRAGUE-27
 Seward-57
 SKINNER-3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16,
 17, 19, 21, 23, 24, 29, 30, 31, 32, 40, 43,
 43, 48, 53
 SMITH-4, 10, 13, 18, 19, 23, 34, 39, 40, 45,
 54, 57, 58, 61
 SMITZER-33
 SNYDER-21, 48
 STANTON-21, 54
 STEARNS-23, 39
 STEPHENS-28
 STEFFINS-
 SUTLIFF-32, 34, 41, 45,
 SISSON-48
 TAYLOR-3, 4, 5, 26
 TEGELER-40, 41, 61
 TERRIL-45
 THEOBOLD-45
 THOMAS-3, 6, 7, 10, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27,
 28, 30, 34, 35, 43, 45, 47, 49, 53
 TIBBETTS-40
 TRACY-23
 TREVERTON-42
 TULLY-41
 TURNER-41, 59
 TUSTEN-28
 TYLER-2, 3, 5, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15,
 16, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31,
 32, 33, 34, 38, 39, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 53,
 54, 57, 60
 TYMERSON-39, 40
 ULYAT-34
 VAIL-11, 15, 19, 31, 32, 34, 38, 42
 VAN BUREN-5
 VAN CAMPEN-33
 VAN GELDER-12, 45
 VAN KIRK-9, 12, 45
 UNDERWOOD-33
 WAGNER-41
 WEBSTER-32, 51, 52
 WELSH-42
 WELSCOTT-34
 WHEAT-3, 4
 WHEELER-31, 33, 43, 49
 WHITE-35
 WHITTIER-22
 WHITTAKER-35, 53
 WILDER-42
 WILLIAMS-3
 WILLIAMSON-33
 WILLIS-22, 23, 33, 40
 WILKINS-43
 WILMOT-43
 WILSEY-13, 38, 60
 WINSLOW-14
 WOOD-39, 40, 47, 54
 WOODLEY-53
 WRIGHT-39
 YERKES-33, 39, 40, 43, 47, 49
 YOUNG-6, 10, 12, 21, 32, 39, 42, 43, 44,
 45, 47, 48, 53, 60

